

UPPER BIG BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP 2026-006)

PIONEER TRAILS RECREATION AREA

SEDIMENT REMOVAL FROM NORTH BAY

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Pioneer Trails Recreation Area

Sediment Removal from North Bay

1. INTRODUCTION

This Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued by the Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District, CONTRACTOR; to solicit proposals for removing sediment from the north bay of Pioneer Trails Lake, which is the area north of the East Road 14 bridge at Pioneer Trails Recreation Area located northeast of Aurora in Hamilton County, Nebraska.

Pioneer Trails Recreation Area is located in the Northwest Quarter Section 35, Township 11 North, Range 6 West and the Southwest Quarter of Section 26, Township 11 North, Range 6 West in Hamilton County, Nebraska. The area is located 1 mile north and 1.5 miles east of Aurora, Nebraska (address is 1714 East 14 Road, Aurora, Nebraska). (See Exhibits C-1, C-2, C-3, and C-4).

Pioneer Trails Dam was constructed on a tributary of Lincoln Creek in 1986. The project was designed to provide flood control, aquifer recharge, wildlife habitat, and recreation opportunities. The project features a 40-surface acre lake that can store 277 acre feet of water, with room for an additional 288 acre feet of flood storage. The lake's water source is supplied by rainfall from a 5,210 acre drainage area.

The crest of the dam is 15.0 feet wide with a crest elevation of 1763.7 feet. The dam has a 30 foot wide concrete spillway with a crest elevation of 1755.0 feet located near the center of the dam. The dam also has a 50 foot wide grass auxiliary spillway located at the east end of the dam with a control section elevation of 1759.0.

Existing facilities at Pioneer Trails Recreation Area include a boat ramp, amphitheater overlooking the lake, picnic shelters, a flush restroom, a vault restroom, a RV camping area, a tent camping area, grills, and a hiking trail around the lake.

2. EXAMINATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS AND EXPLANATION TO OFFEROR

Should the OFFEROR find discrepancies in, or omissions from the RFP, or should the intent or meaning appear unclear or ambiguous, or should any other questions arise relative to the RFP, the OFFEROR shall notify CONTRACTOR by December 19, 2025, via e-mail to jwergin@upperbigblue.org. The OFFEROR making such a request solely will be responsible for its timely receipt by the CONTRACTOR. Replies to such notices will be addressed within 2 working days of receipt by the CONTRACTOR. If the request(s) require changes to the original RFP, then an amendment to the RFP will be issued to all prospective OFFERORS and shared via <https://www.upperbigblue.org/about/bid-proposals>. As reviewed by the CONTRACTOR, if a request(s) is deemed significant, the CONTRACTOR at their discretion may extend the closing date of the RFP.



3. EXHIBITS INCLUDED IN RFP 2026-0005

Exhibit A – Schedule of Events

Exhibit B – Project Background, Scope of Work

Exhibit C – Pioneer Trails Recreation Area – Location Maps

C-1 Hamilton County

C-2 Pioneer Trails Recreation Area

C-2 Pioneer Trails Recreation Area

Exhibit D-1 – Pioneer Trails – North Basin

Exhibit D-2 – Pioneer Trails – North Basin – Depth of Sediment

Exhibit E – Pioneer Trails – Location of Sediment Pit & Storage Area

Exhibit F – Pioneer Trails – Approximate Sediment Pit Location

Exhibit G – Pioneer Trails – Sediment Removal from North Bay - Contractor's Quote - Schedule of Values

4. AMENDMENTS TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

If this RFP is amended, all terms and conditions that are not modified remain unchanged. The term "RFP" includes all exhibits and amendments provided by the OFFEROR as part of this RFP.

5. PREPARATION COST

The preparation of the proposal shall be by, and at the expense of, the OFFEROR.

6. PRICE CONDITIONS

The quoted price must include all costs to the CONTRACTOR for all supervision, labor, tools, supplies, materials, equipment, transportation, testing, and any other miscellaneous for full and complete performance of the work as set forth herein.

Pricing will be guaranteed for 90 days from submission of proposal. All pricing information requested in this RFP must be provided. Costing/Pricing by details must be broken down by labor, materials, etc. CONTRACTOR reserves the right to require the OFFEROR to furnish an accounting breakdown of all contract prices.

7. PAYMENT TERMS

CONTRACTOR payment terms are net 30 days upon receipt of invoice, subject to approval by the Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District Board of Directors.

8. RIGHT OF ACCEPTANCE

CONTRACTOR reserves the right to:

- Accept or reject any proposal in whole or in part.
- Reject all proposals, with or without, notice or reason.
- Enter into discussions or negotiations with OFFEROR prior to award. Negotiations do not constitute an acceptance of the proposal, nor rejection of the proposal, nor a counteroffer by the CONTRACTOR.



- Abandon the work or have the work performed in such a manner as CONTRACTOR may elect, if no proposal is accepted.
- Reduce the amount of sediment to be removed based on bid item and available funding.
- Adjust/increase the amount of sediment to be removed based on bid item and available funding, if agreed to be the selected OFFEROR.

9. PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

While the CONTRACTOR intends to engage in the purchase of services, this event shall not guarantee that the participating OFFEROR will be awarded a Subcontract.

Any award resulting from this request will be made to the OFFEROR whose proposal provides the best value to CONTRACTOR. The best value determination will be at the sole discretion of CONTRACTOR and could result in an award to someone other than the lowest price proposal. Any resulting purchase award will be set forth in writing between the CONTRACTOR and the successful OFFEROR at some date after the close of the request. CONTRACTOR reserves the option to cancel this RFP process at a time and/or to elect not to engage in a Subcontract.

The OFFEROR must provide all data required in order to be considered an acceptable OFFEROR. All data must be executed completely, correctly, and accurately by the OFFEROR. Should the OFFEROR not complete all forms and documents, the OFFEROR will be deemed non-responsive.

This RFP will be evaluated based on the following criteria. OFFERORs are reminded the Subcontract will be awarded for best value with technical ability having the highest weighted percentage.

Criteria	Weighted Percentage (%)
Technical Ability (Experience, Project Plan, Schedule)	25%
Cost	75%
Total	100%

10. SUBMITTAL OF PROPOSAL

OFFEROR's proposal must be submitted with

- Past similar project experience,
- Project Lead
- Estimated project schedule (**Project completion by June 12, 2026**).
(See Exhibit A – Schedule of Events)
- Detailed cost estimate: Please utilize the attached Schedule of Values.
(see Exhibit G – Pioneer Trails Sediment Removal – Contractor's Quote – Schedule of Values)
- Listing of Subcontractors if applicable.
- **Proposals must be received by the CONTRACTOR by 3:00 p.m. CST. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026.**



- Proposals should be submitted via hand delivery, USPS, or E-mail to:

Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District
 Attn: Drew ten Bensel
 319 East 25th Street
 York, NE 68467

Or emailed to:

dtenbensel@upperbigblue.org

11. AWARD OF SUBCONTRACT

CONTRACTOR contemplates award of a Subcontract in accordance with the requirements and conditions set forth or incorporated by reference in this RFP.

Proposals for other than the total work defined may be rejected. The Award may not be made to any OFFEROR who has not responded to all instructions and representations indicated in the RFP.

CONTRACTOR may reject any or all proposals if such action is in the best interest of CONTRACTOR and their PARTNERS and/or waive informalities and minor irregularities in offers received.

CONTRACTOR and their PARTNERS may evaluate proposals and the CONTRACTOR award a Subcontract without discussions with OFFEROR. Therefore, each initial proposal should contain the OFFEROR's best terms.

CONTRACTOR reserves the right to conduct discussions, if later determined to be necessary by CONTRACTOR's Subcontract Administrator and Project Lead.

The OFFEROR agrees, if the proposal is accepted within the number of days allowed, to furnish all items upon which prices are offered, at the set price opposite each item, at the designated point(s) within the time specified in the schedule.

CONTRACTOR may reduce the amount of sediment to be removed based on bid price and available funding.

CONTRACTOR may increase the amount of sediment to be removed based on the bid price and available funding, upon agreement from the selected OFFEROR.

12. NOTICE TO SUCCESSFUL OFFEROR – W-9 Verification, Certificate of Liability Insurance

CONTRACTOR will require any successful OFFEROR to supply a W-9 form (Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification and a Certificate of Liability Insurance.



13. NOTICE OF UNSUCCESSFUL OFFEROR

The OFFEROR will be informed whether the proposal was successful using a method deemed adequate by the CONTRACTOR.



Exhibit A

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Event	Date
Opening Date	December 5, 2025
Omissions and/or Questions	December 19, 2025
Closing Date	January 6, 2026
Evaluation Period	January 6-8, 2026
Anticipated Subcontract Award	January 16, 2026
Notice to Proceed	January 16, 2026
Project Completion, Final Report	June 12, 2026



Exhibit B

BACKGROUND & SCOPE OF WORK

Project Background

Pioneer Trails Recreation Area is located in the Northwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 11 North, Range 6 West and the Southwest Quarter of Section 26, Township 11 North, Range 6 West in Hamilton County, Nebraska. The area is located 1 mile north and 1.5 miles east of Aurora, Nebraska (address is 1714 East 14 Road, Aurora, Nebraska). (See Exhibits C-1, C-2, C-3).

Pioneer Trails Recreation Area is owned, operated, and maintained by the UBBNRD.

Pioneer Trails Dam was constructed in 1986 and features a 40-surface acre lake that can store 277-acre feet of water, with room for an additional 288 acre feet of flood storage. The lake's water source is supplied by rainfall from a 5,210 acre drainage area.

The crest of the dam is 15.0 feet wide with a crest elevation of 1763.7 feet. The dam has a 30 foot wide concrete spillway with a crest elevation of 1755.0 feet. The dam also has a 50 foot wide grass auxiliary spillway located at the east end of the dam with a control section elevation of 1759.0.

Existing facilities at Pioneer Trails Recreation Area include a boat ramp, amphitheater overlooking the lake, picnic shelters, a flush restroom, a vault restroom, a RV camping area, a tent camping area, grills, and a hiking trail around the lake.

Scope of Work

The suggested scope of work is below, and prospective consultants should suggest any proposed alterations to this scope of work.

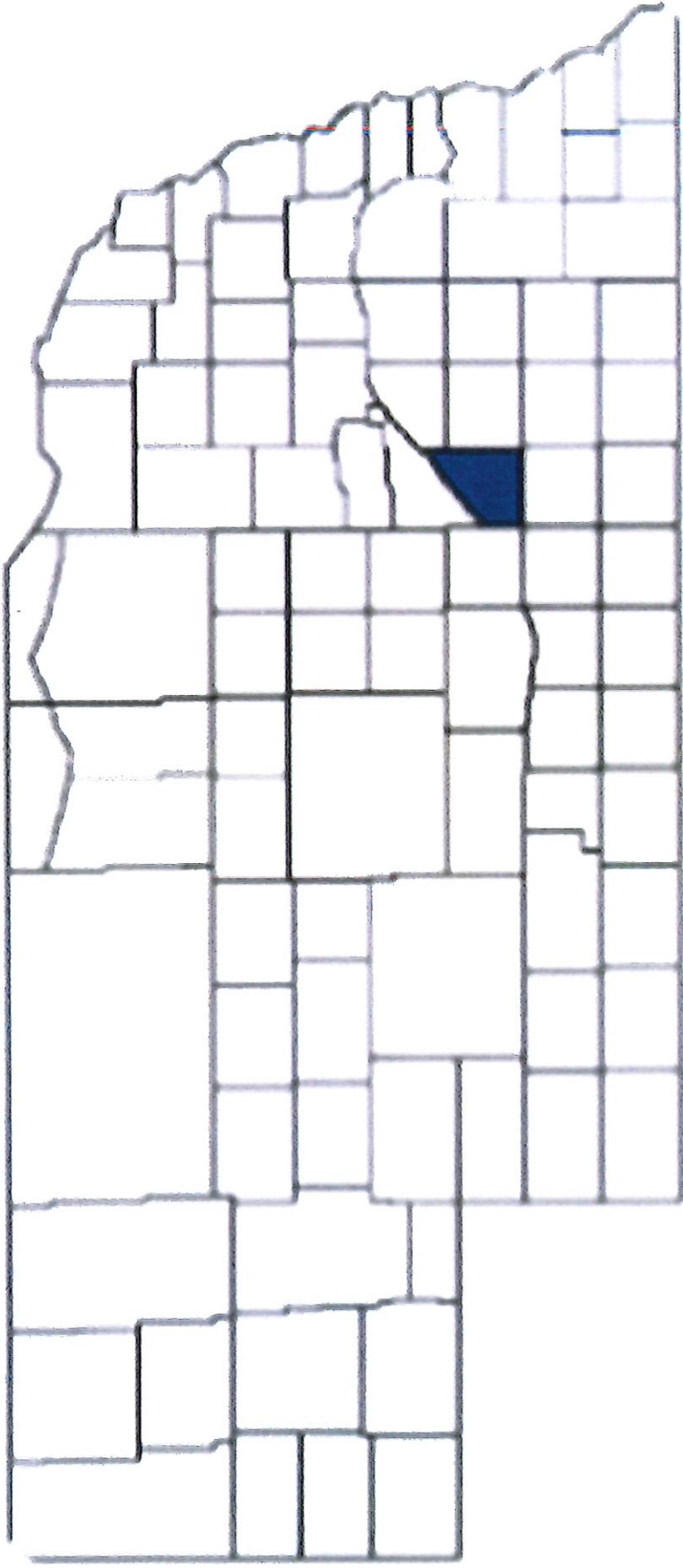
The tasks and specific steps for this study include the following:

1. Pump approximately 2,500 cubic yards of sediment from the basin north of the East Road 14 bridge. The sediment is approximately 1 foot deep across the entire 1.6 acre basin (see Exhibit D-1 and Exhibit D-2)
2. Construct a storage pit/basin to store sediment pumped from the north basin in an area as marked on the map included as Exhibit E and Exhibit F.
 - a. This storage pit should be approximately 150 feet by 100 feet by 4.5 feet deep.
 - b. Material excavated to construct the pit may be placed near the park entrance as shown on Exhibit E.
 - c. The pit should include a drainage pipe that can drain excess water back to the reservoir.



3. If additional material is needed to construct this storage pit, material is available near the park entrance as shown on Exhibit E. Use of this material should be coordinated with the Upper Big Blue NRD.
4. If additional storage space is needed from material removed to construct the pit, it may be hauled to the area near the park entrance, as shown on Exhibit E.
5. The OFFERER shall survey the constructed storage pit prior to pumping operations.
6. The OFFERER shall survey the storage pit following pumping operations.
7. The pre-pumping survey and post pumping survey will be used to determine the amount of sediment removed.
8. The OFFERER shall obtain any necessary or required permits to construct the storage permit.
9. The NRD plans to remove the silt material from this pit in the future, and to restore the pit area to it's original contours.
10. During construction, appropriate access and warning signs will need to be posted to close public access to the northwest parking area.
11. If the OFFERER plans to haul material to/from the borrow/waste area near the park entrance (Exhibit E), the OFFERER will need to post appropriate warning signs on East 14 Road.
12. The OFFERER will provide a weekly update on the project progress to the UBBNRD.
13. **The OFFERER shall complete the work by close of business on June 12, 2026.**





Hamilton County

Pioneer Trails Recreation Area – Location

Exhibit C-2

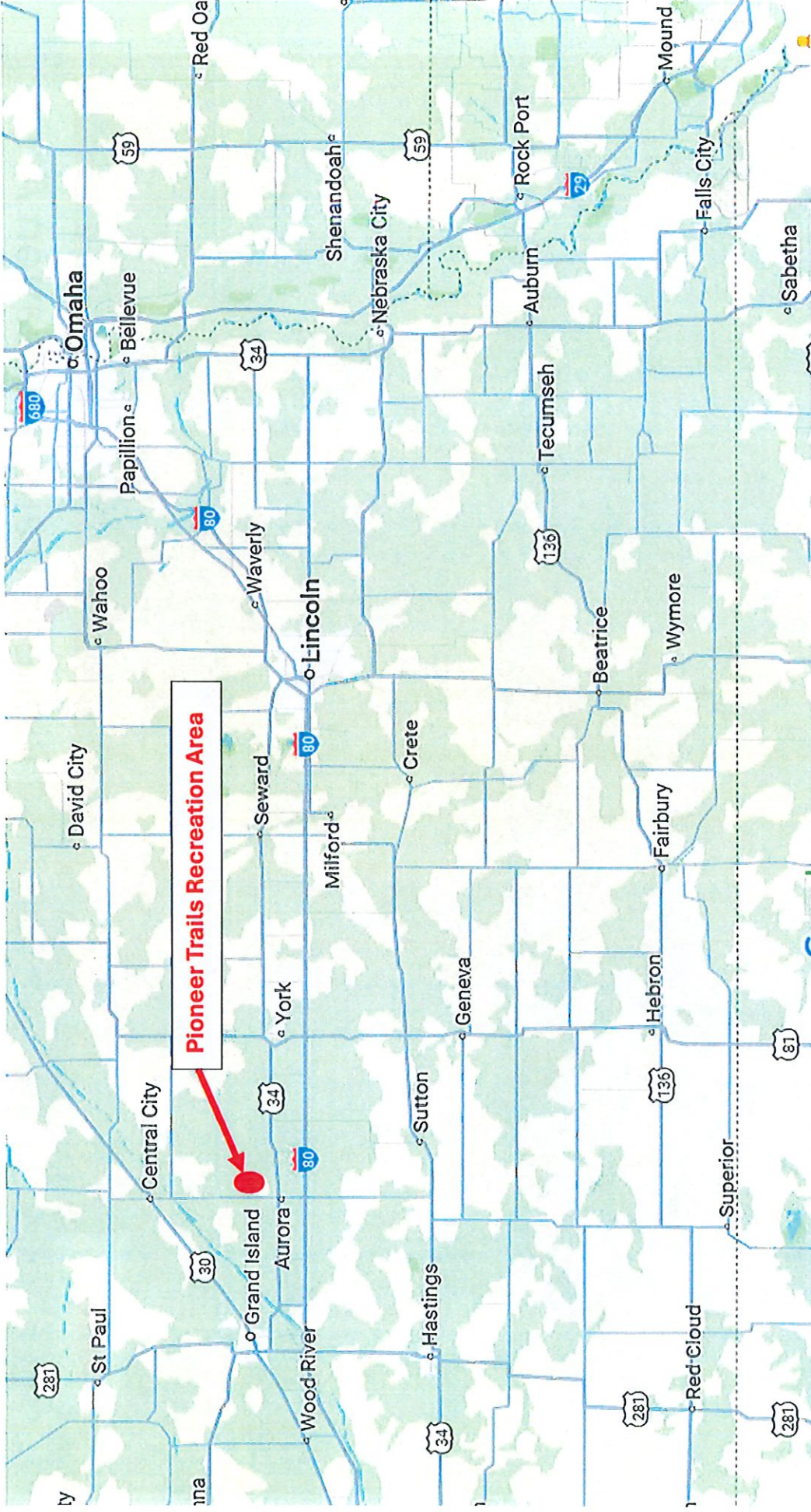


Exhibit C-3

S Road

Hwy 34

Pioneer Trails Recreation

R Road

E 14 Road

Hwy 14

Aurora RC Flyers Field

Aurora Cemetery

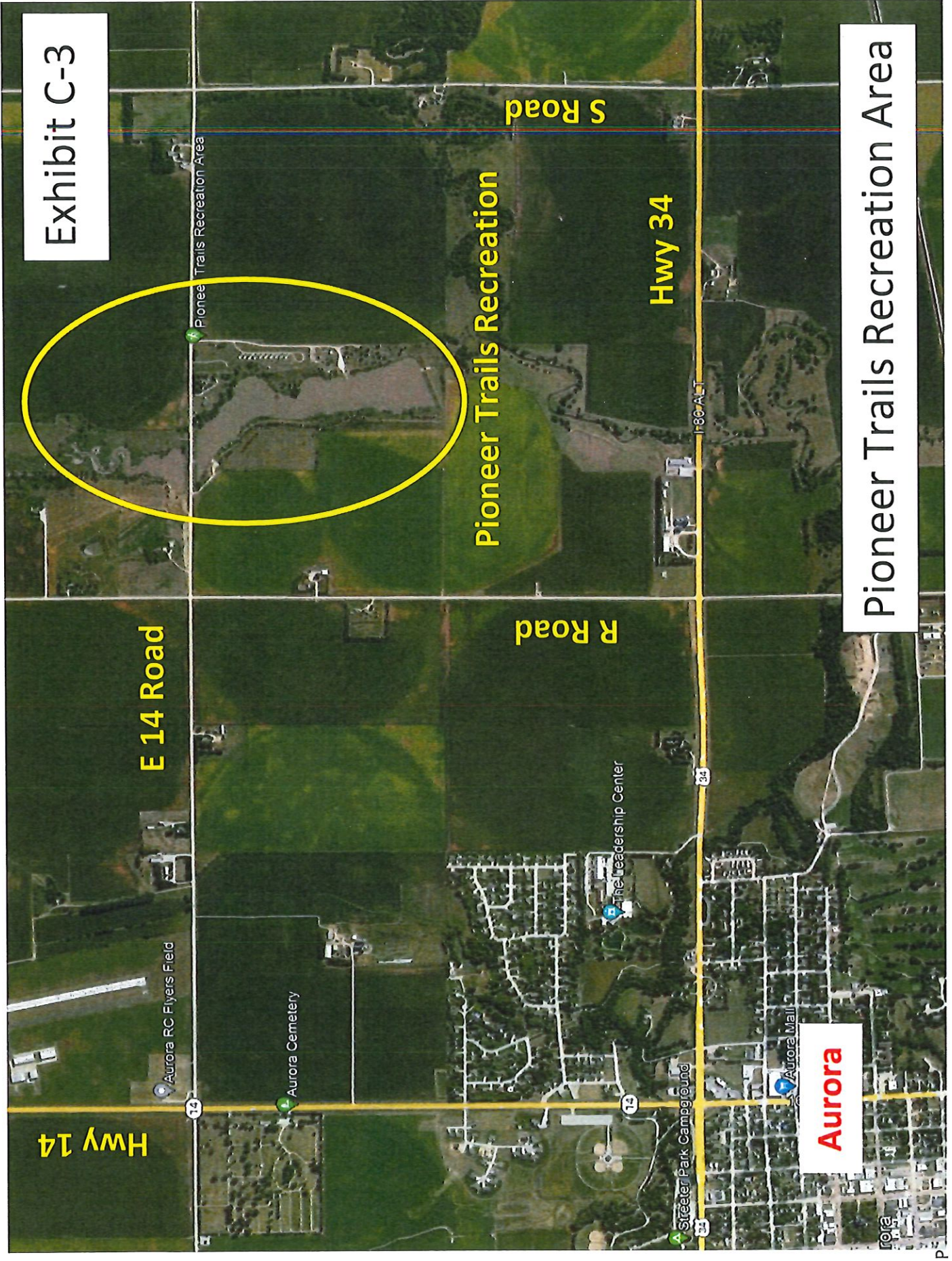
The Leadership Center

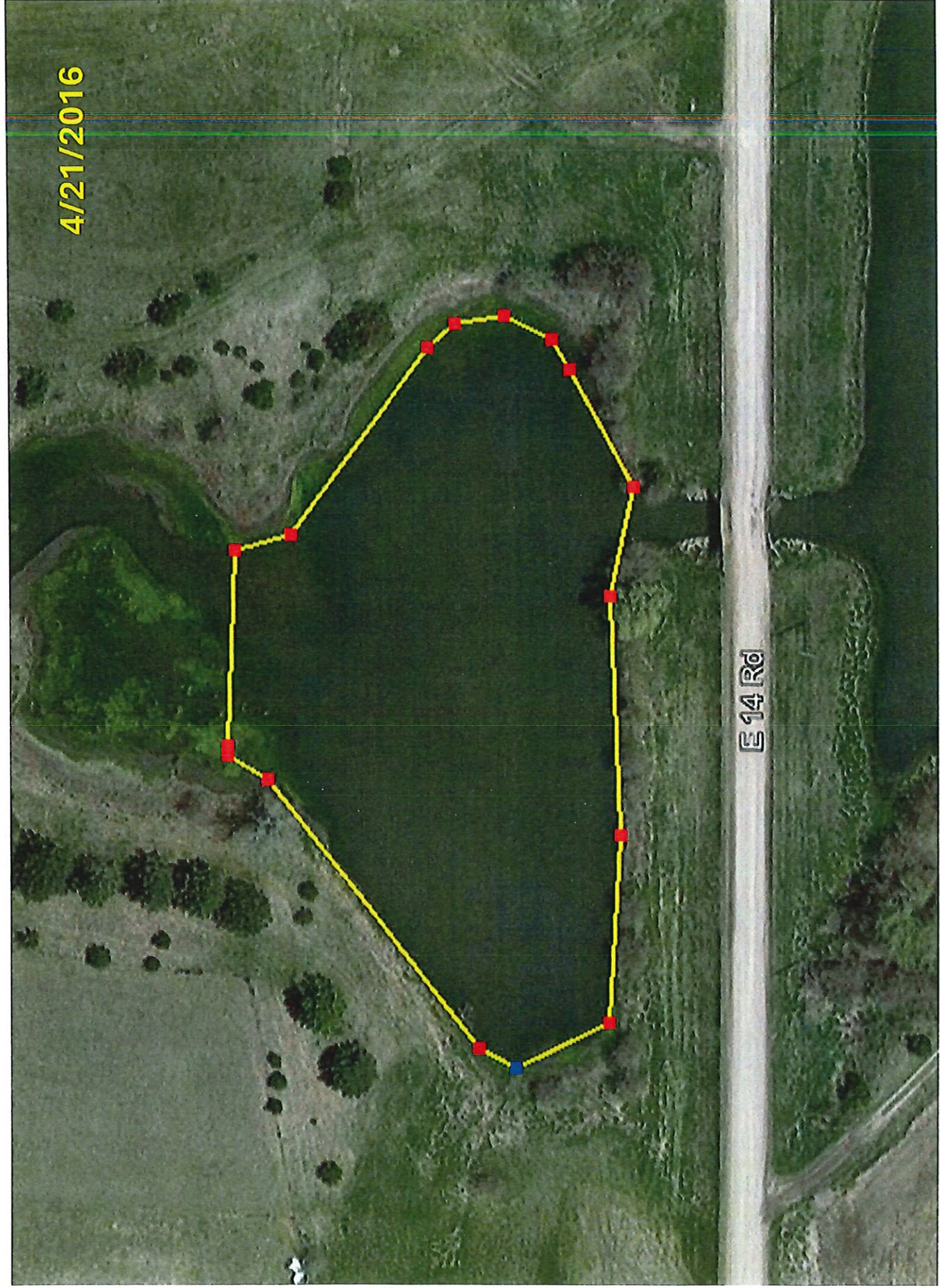
Steeter Park Campground

Aurora Mall

Aurora

Pioneer Trails Recreation Area





Depth of Sediment

Pioneer Trail Basin – Aurora, NE

Exhibit D-2

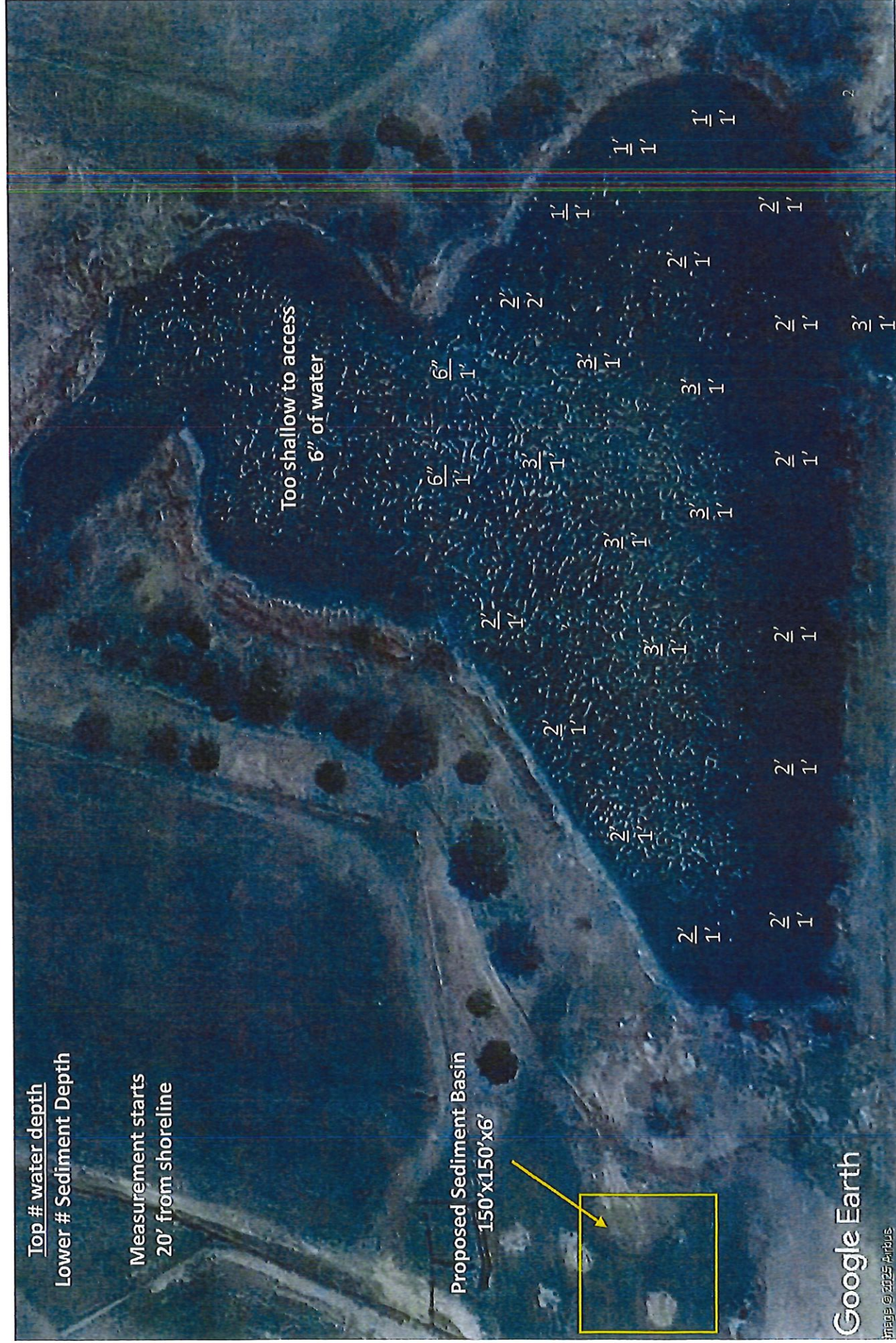


Exhibit E

Area for Sediment Pit



E 14 Rd

E 14 Rd



Storage Area for Sediment Pit

Pioneer Trails Recreation Area

Approximate Sediment Pit Location

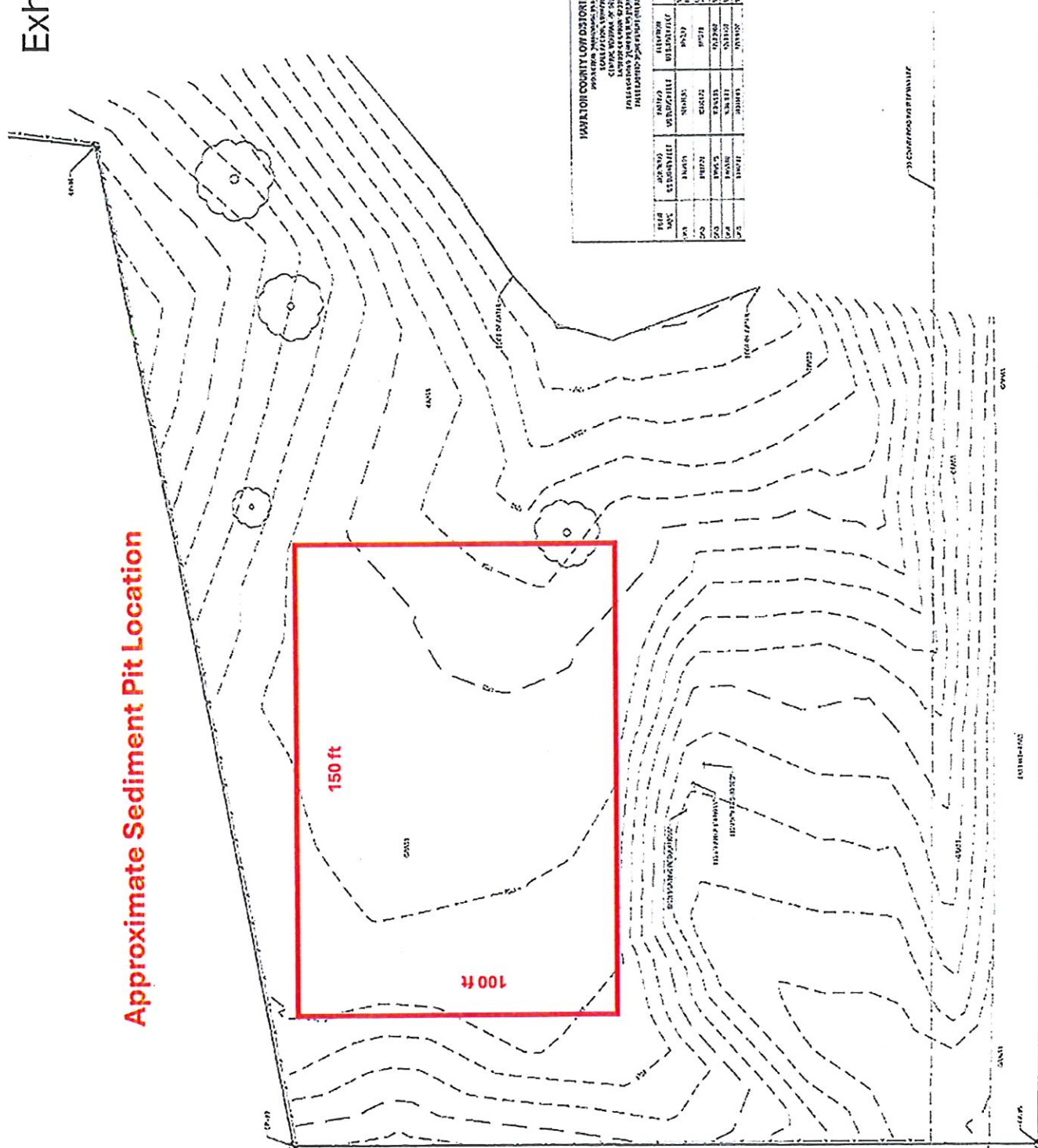
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EXHIBIT G**CONTRACTOR'S QUOTE****CONTRACTOR'S SCHEDULE OF VALUES FOR THE
PIONEER TRAILS NORTH BAY SEDIMENT REMOVAL.**

Item #	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price (\$)	Amount (\$)
1	Mobilization	1	LS		
2	Construction Access Signage - in Northwest Parking Area and along East 14 Road if Needed	1	LS		
3	Construction of Waste Pit Waste Pit should be able to store an estimated 2,500 cubic yards of sediment. Estimated size 150 ft x 100 ft x 4.5 ft. Pit should include a drainage pipe. OFFERER will be responsible for any required permits for constructing the waste pit. Additional space for waste pit material removed is available near the park entrance (Exhibit E).	3300	Cu yds		
4	Pumping of Sediment from North Bay to Waste Pit NOTE: Quantity of sediment removed will be measured by comparing volume of empty sediment pit to volume of material in sediment pit following pumping operations (OFFERER to provide survey of empty sediment pit and survey of pit following pumping operations)	2500	Cu yds		
4a	NOTE: CONTRACTOR may reduce the amount of sediment to be removed based on bid prices and available funding.				
4b	NOTE: CONTRACTOR may increase the amount of sediment to be removed based on bid prices and available funding, upon agreement from the selected OFFERER.				
4c	NOTE: Any changes in amount of sediment removed will be measured/confirmed by OFFERERS survey of sediment pit prior to pumping operations and following pumping operations.				
5	Sediment pit drainage pipe/system	1	LS		
TOTAL =					

NOTES

1. All necessary labor and materials needed to complete the items shall be considered subsidiary to the items of the work.
2. OFFERER to construct waste pit to hold estimated 2,500 cubic yards of sediment.
3. OFFERER will be responsible for survey of sediment waste pit prior to and following sediment pumping operations in order to measure the quantity of sediment removed..
4. OFFERER will be responsible for any required permits for constructing the waste pit
5. Material removed for construction of waste pit may be placed near the park entrance as shown on Exhibit E.
6. CONTRACTOR may reduce the amount of sediment to be removed based on bid prices and available funding.
7. CONTRACTOR may increase the amount of sediment to be removed based on the bid price and available funding, upon agreement from the selected OFFEROR.
8. **Work must be completed and ready for payment by the end of the day, Friday, June 12, 2026.**
9. **Quotes must be received in the Upper Big Blue NRD Office by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 6, 2026.**
10. Quotes can be emailed to dtenbenschel@upperbigblue.org or mailed to the Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District, 319 East 25th Street, York, NE 68467.

AS SUBMITTED BY:

Business Name (typed or printed): _____

Prepared By: (typed or printed Signature Name) _____

Signature: _____ Title _____ Date _____