

5.0 CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION

This chapter highlights the consultation and collaboration process for the revised proposed Project, including the general public as well as Tribal governments, and federal, state, and local agencies and organizations.

5.1 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

5.1.1 Scoping

In addition to the brief summary of scoping found in Chapter 1, this section describes the public scoping process, including the means used to notify the public about the opportunity to comment at this stage in the NEPA process. The scoping comment period began on September 19, 2014, and ended on October 24, 2014.

5.1.1.1 Federal Register

Initiation of the EIS process and the public scoping meetings were announced through the *Federal Register*, news releases, and the BLM Idaho Project Web site (http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/prog/nepa_register/gateway-west.html) as described below.

The public scoping process for the Supplemental EIS began with the publication in the *Federal Register* of the BLM's NOI to (1) prepare an SEIS to support the BLM's consideration of the Proponents' August 2014 application for a ROW grant to use public lands for portions of the Gateway West Transmission Line Project; and (2) conduct public scoping meetings. The NOI was published on September 19, 2014 (79 Federal Register 56399). The NOI is presented in Appendix C-1 of the Scoping Report (Appendix I of this SEIS) and on the Project Web site, referenced above.

5.1.1.2 Scoping Materials

The BLM prepared a package of handouts and displays to present information at the scoping meetings. A handout titled "Why Are We Here" was distributed to all attendees of the scoping meetings and is included in Appendix C-3 of the Scoping Report. This handout and other materials used at the scoping meetings are available online at the Project Web site (see above).

5.1.1.3 Media Releases and Public Service Announcements

The BLM prepared and distributed news releases to announce the scoping period and publicize the scoping meetings and their respective locations. The news releases were posted on the BLM Idaho Project Web site and are contained in Appendix C-2 of the Scoping Report. News releases were distributed to local and regional newspapers, radio stations, and TV stations in Idaho and the region, as well as notifications on BLM-Idaho Facebook and Twitter social media. Legal notices were published in newspapers of record. Table 5.1-1 shows the newspapers that printed the legal notice.

Table 5.1-1. Legal Notices in Newspapers of Record

Publication	Publication Location
<i>The Idaho Statesman</i>	Boise, Idaho
<i>Kuna Melba News</i>	Kuna, Idaho
<i>The Owyhee Avalanche</i>	Murphy, Idaho
<i>Glenns Ferry Gazette</i>	Glenns Ferry, Idaho
<i>Mountain Home News</i>	Mountain Home, Idaho

Flyers with information about public meetings were posted at various public locations in communities where meetings were held. A list of locations is shown in Table 5.1-2.

Table 5.1-2. Meeting Posters Displayed in the Community

Business/Building	Location
<i>Arctic Circle</i>	Kuna, Idaho
<i>Kuna Public Library</i>	Kuna, Idaho
<i>Paul's Market</i>	Kuna, Idaho
<i>U.S. Bank</i>	Kuna, Idaho
<i>U.S. Post Office</i>	Kuna, Idaho
<i>Murphy General Store</i>	Murphy, Idaho
<i>Owyhee County Courthouse</i>	Murphy, Idaho
<i>Owyhee County Historical Museum</i>	Murphy, Idaho
<i>U.S. Post Office</i>	Murphy, Idaho
<i>Cooks Food Town</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>Franklin Building Supply</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>Gooding City Hall</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>Gooding Public Library</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>Lupita's Boutique & Tienda</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>Main Locke Insurance</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>Ridley's Food & Drug</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>U.S. Post Office</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>Wells Fargo Bank</i>	Gooding, Idaho
<i>Ziggy's Gas & Grub</i>	Bliss, Idaho

5.1.1.4 Scoping Meetings

The BLM hosted four public meetings in October 2014 to provide planning and NEPA information to the public and agencies and to offer opportunities to identify issues and concerns. Public scoping and the scoping meetings were publicized on the BLM project Web site and through the local media. As summarized in Table 5.1-3, a total of 189 members of the public attended the various public meetings.

Table 5.1-3. Public Scoping Meeting Dates, Locations, and Attendance

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Attendance
October 7, 2014	BLM Boise District Office Boise, ID	44
October 7, 2014	Kuna Senior Center Kuna, ID	51
October 8, 2014	Gooding Fairgrounds Gooding, ID	9
October 9, 2014	Owyhee County Historical Museum Murphy, ID	85
Total Attendance		189

A scoping packet was offered to all who attended the public meetings and is also available on the BLM's Project Web site, http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/prog/nepa_register/gateway-west.html.

5.1.1.5 Scoping Period Comment Letters

A total of 740 individual comments were identified and coded. The major comment categories are presented in the Scoping Report (see Appendix L of this SEIS). Appendix B to the Scoping Report includes the list of codes (Appendix B-1) and a table with the coded comments (Appendix B-2).

These letters and comments were reviewed by a team of analysts and logged into a database that tracks and sorts comments throughout the Project's NEPA process. Scoping comments are addressed in the analysis documented in the SEIS.

5.2 CONSULTATION

Formal consultations required by law and agency policy were conducted between the BLM and other government entities, including federal and state agencies. The following section highlights these consultations for the SEIS.

5.2.1 Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation

In compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA (as amended) and the ACHP's revised regulations (36 CFR 800), the BLM initiated government-to-government consultation in April 2008 at the beginning of the Gateway West Project (Table 5.2-1). The consultation was conducted to inform the Shoshone-Bannock and Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the proposed undertaking and solicit their concerns and/or comments regarding the possible presence of TCPs or places of cultural, traditional, or religious importance to the Tribes in the proposed Project area.

A letter was sent to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to update them on the status of the Project and the SEIS in October 2014. The BLM consulted with Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in July 2015 on the Administrative Draft SEIS. The Tribes informed the BLM that another consultation would not be requested until the Tribes had reviewed the Draft SEIS for their comments. A consultation meeting with the BLM would be requested following their review and comment on the Draft SEIS.

In lieu of an letter and following established consultation with these Tribes, the BLM participated in face-to-face meetings with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes as indicated in Table 5.2-1. The PA for the Project was signed in July 2013 and the Final PA was sent to all consulting parties including the Tribes in August 2014. There was a separate, Project-specific MOU between the BLM and the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes signed in November 2011. There has been ongoing consultation for another MOU over the last 2 years with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, that when signed will replace the November 2011 MOU.

Periodic updates on routing changes have been provided to all of the Tribes. Following the established consultation under the *Wings and Roots* Program with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, which is the recognized government-to-government procedure in the

Twin Falls and Boise Districts, the BLM has held six specific Gateway West Project ad hoc meetings with them.

The Shoshone-Paiute Tribes have expressed concern over portions of the alignment that are not in the WWE corridor. They have expressed that they remain opposed to the Project lines being located inside of the SRBOP. They have also expressed concern that, if Segment 9 was placed along Baja Road and double-circuited with the existing 138-kV line in the SRBOP, the existing 138-kV line towers would not be removed. They also oppose activity in sage-grouse habitat. They indicated they would like this Project to follow the WWE corridor or other existing corridors.

Table 5.2-1. Status of Tribal Consultation for the SEIS

Name of Tribe	Date of Initial Contact	Summary of Issues Raised during Consultation
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	July 28, 2013	Enhancement proposal introduced as new item.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	August 19, 2013	Record of Decision noted as information only.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	December 6, 2013	Ad hoc meeting.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	February 20, 2014	Introduction of new Project Manager, Jim Stobaugh; Project update; PowerPoint presentation on raptors with a handout.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes (sent to chair)	October 3, 2014	Letter to update the Tribe on the status of the Project and the SEIS.
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes	October 3, 2014	Letter to update the Tribe on the status of the Project and the SEIS.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	October 8, 2014	Ad hoc meeting on revised Gateway West routes.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	October 10, 2014	Final RAC Subcommittee reports provided to Tribe.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	About October 21, 2014	Provided maps to the Tribe with locations of recorded cultural resource sites in the SRBOP and Orchard Combat Training Center.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	November 12, 2014	Ad hoc meeting, Tribal comment period.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	November 20, 2014	<i>Wings and Roots</i> meeting.
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes	February 3, 2015 to February 6, 2015 Doodle Poll emails	Called to see if anyone from the Tribe planned to attend the 6280 Trails Manual meeting.
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes		Carolyn indicated she misunderstood the date and had missed the meeting.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	February 24 and 25, 2015 emails	Sent Ted an update after the trails mtg on March 3, 2015 and acknowledge the need for a government-to-government meeting through <i>Wings and Roots</i> .
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	April 16, 2015 email	Sent out meeting summary notes on from the March 3, 2015 6280 Trails Manual meeting.
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes	April 16, 2015 email	Sent out meeting summary notes on from the March 3, 2015 6280 Trails Manual meeting.

Table 5.2-1. Status of Tribal Consultation for the SEIS (continued)

Name of Tribe	Date of Initial Contact	Summary of Issues Raised during Consultation
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	March 3, 2015	Meeting focused on two BLM Trails Manuals and their impacts to the Project.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	May 21, 2015	Project update, Tribal request for an ad hoc meeting.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	May 27, 2015	<i>Wings and Roots</i> meeting.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	June 5, 2015 phone call	Discussed government-to-government June and July 2015 meeting dates through <i>Wings and Roots</i> .
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	June 10, 2015 email	Sent email on government-to-government meeting information and in coordination with the Tribe identified meeting dates for June and July 2015.
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes	June 11, 2015 email	Sent out request to continue government-to-government consultation (via staff-to-staff initiation).
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	June 12, 2015 email	Sent email on government-to-government meeting agenda/information and confirmed meeting dates for June and July 2015.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	June 17, 2015	AdHoc meeting. Invite Tribal input on Administrative Draft SEIS, provided CD of Cultural Resource Technical Report.
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes	July 22, 2015	Tribal comment to Administrative Draft (ADSEIS) due.
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes	July 21, 2015	Government-to-government consultation meeting on Project ADSEIS review and Cultural Resources Technical Report with staff.

5.2.2 Cooperating Agencies

5.2.2.1 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Consultation with the USFWS under Section 7 of the ESA began in March 2008 and has continued throughout the scoping and EIS analysis process. The USFWS is a cooperating agency and continues to participate in the NEPA process. The BLM is working with the USFWS regarding ESA and the possibility of re-initiating consultation.

5.2.2.2 National Park Service

The NPS continues to participate in the NEPA process as a cooperating agency. Required consultation with the NPS under NEPA began in March 2008 and continued throughout the scoping, EIS, and supplemental EIS analysis process. Also following the consultation requirements with the NPS under the National Historic Trails Act for the management and protection of nationally significant historic trails (e.g., Oregon NHT).

5.2.2.3 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The USACE has been participating in the NEPA process as a cooperating agency since March 2008 and has continued throughout the scoping, EIS, and supplemental EIS analysis process. Participation by the USACE has emphasized consideration of potential effects on aquatic resources to inform future decisions regarding compliance with Section 404 of the CWA.

5.2.2.4 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Federal agencies are required by Section 106 of the NHPA to consider the effects on historic properties (listed or eligible for listing on the NRHP). The BLM, as the lead federal agency, must provide the ACHP an opportunity to comment on adverse effects on properties listed on or eligible for the NRHP. The ACHP formally requested to participate in the development of a PA for the Project. A PA was developed for the Project (found in Appendix N of the FEIS) through a collaborative process with the invited participation of all interested parties. It specified phased survey and reporting and provided the framework and direction for a project-wide HPTP (the Proponents' draft can be found in Appendix C-1 of the FEIS) and for site-specific segment HPTP development. The executed PA addresses the entire Project, including Segments 8 and 9.

5.2.2.5 Idaho State Historic Preservation Office

Following the consultation requirements of the NHPA, the BLM sent Project notification letters to the Idaho SHPO in March 2008 at the beginning of the Gateway West Project. The Gateway West PA was executed on September 12, 2013. The PA covers the entire Project, including Segments 8 and 9. The BLM continues to coordinate with the Idaho SHPO on the review of cultural reports and development and finalization of the HPTP.

5.2.2.6 Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Following the consultation requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the BLM has involved and notified the IDFG of the Project through mailing and focused stakeholder meetings.

5.2.2.7 Idaho Governor's Office of Energy Resources

Following the consultation requirements with the State of Idaho Office of Energy Resources (OER) under NEPA which began in March 2008 and has continued throughout the scoping, EIS, and supplemental EIS analysis process. The Idaho OER is a cooperating agency and continues to participate in the NEPA process.

5.3 PREPARERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

This section contains the list of preparers and contributors for the Draft SEIS.

5.3.1 Bureau of Land Management

Last Name	First Name	Responsibility	Affiliation	Education	Years of Experience
Boeck	Justin	Fire and Fuels Management	Boise District Office	M.S., Environmental Science	16
Bohn	Bryce	Soils, Air Quality, Water Resources, Riparian and Wetlands	Idaho State Office	M.S., Aquatic Ecology	25
Breithaupt	Brent	Paleontology	Wyoming State Office	M.S., Paleontology	5

Last Name	First Name	Responsibility	Affiliation	Education	Years of Experience
Cooper	Natalie	Realty Specialist – Renewable Energy Coordination Office Team Lead	Idaho State Office	B.S., Forestry and Natural Resources	17
Feeney	Heather	Communications/ Public Involvement; Chapter 1, Chapter 5	Idaho State Office	M.A., Communications B.A., Political Science	12
Fehlau	Robin	Recreation, National Conservation Lands	Idaho State Office	M.S., Outdoor Recreation B.S., Physical Geography	23
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Halford	Kirk	Archaeology	Idaho State Office	M.A., Anthropology	28
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Last Name	First Name	Responsibility	Affiliation	Education	Years of Experience
Shaw	Dean	Cultural Resources, Tribal Consultation	Boise District Office	B.A., Anthropology	24
Stobaugh	James	Project Management	Nevada State Office	B.S., Range Science	35
Suhr Pierce	Julie	Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice	Utah State Office (Great Basin Zone)	Ph.D., Environmental, Natural Resource & Public Economics and Applied Decision Theory	12
Sutter	Jason	General Wildlife and Fish; Special Status Wildlife and Fish – National Transmission Support Team	Idaho State Office	M.S., Raptor Biology	17
Thrift	Brian	Plan Amendments	Twin Falls District Office	M.S., Animal & Range Sciences	1
Whitesides	Scott	Chapter 1, Chapter 2, Chapter 4, Plan Amendments	Utah State Office	B.A., Anthropology M.A., Maritime Studies	5
Wimmer	Mark	NEPA (Chapter 1, Chapter 2, Chapter 4, Plan Amendments) – National Transmission Support Team	St. George Field Office (Utah)	M.S., Range Science	12

5.3.2 Third-Party Contractor Team

The following is the list of third-party contractor staff responsible for preparation of the Draft SEIS.

Last Name	First Name	Responsibility	Affiliation	Education	Years of Experience
Brimacombe	Karen	Vegetation, TES Plants, Invasive Plant Species	Tetra Tech	M.S., Botany	14
Cavanagh	Suzy	Chapter 2, Plan Amendments, Chapter 4, Chapter 5	Tetra Tech	M.S., Geology	20
Crookston	John	Chapter 1, Chapter 2, Wildlife, Special Status Wildlife Species	Tetra Tech	M.S., Biology/Ecology	13
Dadswell	Matt	Socioeconomics, Agriculture, Environmental Justice, Land Use and Recreation	Tetra Tech	M.A., Economic Geography	20

Last Name	First Name	Responsibility	Affiliation	Education	Years of Experience
Evans	Robert	Visual Resources	Tetra Tech	M.S., Landscape Architecture	9
Franklin	Kerri	Public Involvement	EnviroIssues	Master of Public Administration	4
Gravender	David	Technical Editor	Tetra Tech	M.A., English	13
Harloe	Lisa	Wetlands	Tetra Tech	B.S., Biology/Botany and Public Administration and Policy Analysis	15
Iozzi	Joe	NEPA Lead	Tetra Tech	B.S., Forest Management	32
Katz	Rachael	Land Use and Recreation	Tetra Tech	M.P.A., Natural Resource Management	10
Killam	William	Cultural / Historical Resources	AECOM	B.A., Sociology/ Anthropology/ Psychology	35
Kraus	Jennifer	Water Resources	Tetra Tech	B.S, Environmental Science/Biology	18
Lawson	Chris	Air Quality	Tetra Tech	M.A., Geography	36
Litzenberger	Hannah	Public Involvement	EnviroIssues	B.S., Natural Resources	8
Nilsson	Elena	Cultural Resources	AECOM	M.A., Anthropology, B.A., English	35
Noel	Scott	Electrical Environment	HDR	B.A., Geography and Environmental Planning	14
Omdal	Morgan	Geographic Information Systems Coordinator	Tetra Tech	B.S., Zoology	12
Pellerin	Patricia	Noise, Public Health and Safety	Tetra Tech	M.E.Sc., Chemical/Bio-chemical Engineering	10
Ranzetta	Kirk	National Historic Trails, Cultural Resources	AECOM	Ph.D. & M.A. Urban Affairs and Public Policy, B.A Historic Preservation	20
Ritchie	Annalissa	Plan Amendments	Tetra Tech	M.S., Forest Resources	13
Spillers	Paul	Minerals, Geologic Hazards, Paleontology, Soils	Tetra Tech	B.S., Geology	23
Tucker	Gordon	Cultural Resources	AECOM	Ph.D., Anthropology	39

5.4 DRAFT SEIS DISTRIBUTION

Public reading rooms, agencies, and governmental units listed below were notified of the document's availability on the BLM Idaho Project Web site and received a copy on CD-ROM. In addition, printed copies of the document were provided to the BLM Idaho State Office, the BLM Boise District Office, the BLM Twin Falls District Office, the BLM

Library (National Operations Center - Denver), and the Idaho Governor's Office of Energy Resources.

5.4.1 Native American Tribal Governments

- Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation
- Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation

5.4.2 Federal Agencies

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Air Force (Mountain Home AFB)
- Idaho Army National Guard
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Region 10)

5.4.3 Municipal Governments

- City of Boise
- City of Caldwell
- City of Kuna
- City of Meridian
- City of Nampa

5.4.4 County Governments

- Ada County
- Canyon County
- Elmore County
- Gooding County
- Jerome County
- Owyhee County
- Twin Falls County

5.4.5 U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate

- U.S. House of Representatives
 - Congressman Raúl Labrador
 - Congressman Mike Simpson
- U.S. Senate
 - Senator Dean Carpo
 - Senator Jim Risch

5.4.6 State of Idaho

- Idaho Office of Energy Resources
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game

5.4.7 Public Reading Rooms and Depository Libraries

- Ada Community Library, Victory Branch
- Boise Public Library
- Boise State University, Albertsons Library
- Bruneau Valley District Library
- College of Idaho, N.L. Terteling Library
- College of Southern Idaho Library
- College of Western Idaho Library
- Gooding Public Library
- Kuna Library District
- Meridian Library District, Cherry Lane Library
- Mountain Home Public Library
- Nampa Public Library
- Northwest Nazarene University, John E. Riley Library
- State Law Library
- Twin Falls Public Library

5.4.8 Bureau of Land Management Offices

- Boise District Office/Bruneau and Four Rivers Field Offices
- BLM Library, National Operations Center
- Burley Field Office
- Idaho State Office
- Owyhee Field Office
- Shoshone Field Office
- Twin Falls District Office/Jarbidge Field Office
- Washington Office