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*CCSM Project Phase I Wind Turbine Development  
Environmental Assessment*

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*Appendix B*

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Interdisciplinary Team Checklist

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## **APPENDIX B**

### **INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM CHECKLIST**

**Project Name:** Power Company of Wyoming – Chokecherry and Sierra Madre (CCSM) Wind Energy Project Phase I Wind Turbine Development Environmental Assessment (EA)

**EA Number:** DOI-BLM-WY-070-EA16-46

**File/Serial Number:** WYW-167155

**Project Leader:** Heather Schultz

**Determination Process:**

If the resource is not present in the area impacted by the proposed action, that resource is coded as NP (= not present in the area).

If the resource is present, Appendix C – Project Permitting and BLM Tiering Procedures of the CCSM Record of Decision (ROD) (BLM 2012a) (attached to this EA as Appendix A) states that the Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) process should be used to document the steps the BLM Interdisciplinary (ID) Team used to evaluate and determine whether the project-wide level environmental impact statement, in this case the CCSM Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), sufficiently analyzed the site-specific effects and considered the site-specific plan of development or if additional NEPA documentation is necessary. The following questions were answered in the DNA evaluation for this EA:

1. Are the anticipated environmental impacts of the site-specific plan of development sufficiently analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS?
2. Is the site-specific plan of development a feature of, or essentially similar to, the selected alternative identified in the CCSM Project ROD? Is the site-specific plan of development within the conceptual area of development, or if the location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS? If there are differences, can it be explained as to why they are not substantial?
3. Is the existing analysis in the CCSM Project FEIS valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as rangeland health standard assessments, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can it be reasonably concluded that new information and circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the site-specific plan of development?
4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the site-specific plan of development similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS?
5. Is the public involvement and interagency review conducted on the CCSM Project FEIS adequate for the site-specific plan of development?

If all questions above are answered “yes”, then additional NEPA review is not necessary for that particular resource, and that resource is not analyzed in this EA. Resources are categorized in the table below, as follows:

- “Not Present” (NP) – the resource does not occur in the CCSM Project Area for the Proposed Action and is not carried forward for detailed analysis.

- “Not Impacted” (NI) – the resource was sufficiently analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS (BLM 2012b) or it can be reasonably concluded that the resource would not be affected to a degree that requires analysis and therefore it is not carried forward for detailed analysis.
- “Potentially Impacted” (PI) – the resource is present in the CCSM Project Area for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development, and, based on BLM’s review of the results of scoping and procedures outlined in Appendix A of this EA, it may be potentially impacted.

**Table B-1. Interdisciplinary Team Checklist**

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determinations	Specialist
NI	Air and Atmospheric Values	<p>The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of or is essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS.</p> <p>The quantitative assessment of fugitive dust impacts in the CCSM Project FEIS utilized total surface acres of development and total miles of roads within the Project Area as a proxy for potential fugitive dust generation. Total surface disturbance acreages and miles of roads resulting from the Phase I Wind Turbine Development plus the Infrastructure Components described in EA 1 are not anticipated to exceed those disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS, so no further fugitive dust analysis is warranted.</p> <p>Since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS (BLM 2012b) there has been one change to the applicable air quality standards: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has lowered the primary NAAQS for PM<sub>2.5</sub> from 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, but it can be reasonably concluded from the findings in the CCSM Project FEIS and from the Infrastructure Component EA that the Phase I Wind Turbine Development would not cause an exceedance of this standard.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions are considered as a cumulative impact consistent with the CCSM Project FEIS (BLM 2012a) and no changes to the anticipated greenhouse gas emissions analysis provided in the CCSM Project FEIS are anticipated for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Therefore, additional analysis is not warranted.</p>	Heather Schultz
PI	Cultural Resources and Native American Concerns	<p>Site-specific cultural resources surveys were conducted in the CCSM Project Area in 2013 and 2014. Eligible properties that would be potentially affected have been located within the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site and a review of this information is warranted to ensure conformance with the CCSM Project FEIS and the Cultural Resources Programmatic Agreement, contained in Appendix E of the CCSM Project ROD. Per the CCSM Project ROD, “BLM shall make determinations of effect for and identify any adverse effects to historic properties within those portions of the APE identified” for each site-specific plan of development.</p>	Patrick Walker
PI	National Scenic and Historic Trails	<p>In 2012, the BLM published Manual 6280 – Management of National Scenic and Historic Trails and Trails Under Study or Recommended as Suitable for Congressional Designation. This document alters the management framework analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Additional analysis is required for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development where the visual impacts may affect the CDNST under the new guidance. The National Park Service commenced a feasibility study update and revision in the spring of 2011 to evaluate the feasibility and suitability of adding routes of the Overland Historic Trail and the Cherokee Historic Trail to the already designated California NHT (NPS 2011). Additional analysis for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development is required for the Overland Trail to comply with Manual 6280.</p>	David Hullum Bonni Bruce

**Table B-1. Interdisciplinary Team Checklist**

<b>Determination</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Rationale for Determinations</b>	<b>Specialist</b>
NI	Geology, Geologic Hazards, and Mineral Resources	<p>The Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R with respect to Geological and Mineral Resources, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. The results of geotechnical investigations for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development are consistent with disclosures in the CCSM Project FEIS.</p> <p>Potential impacts due to conflicts with mineral extraction (oil, gas, and coal) were analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS and it was determined there would be a low potential for conflicts because development of these minerals is expected to be low. Similarly, potential geological hazards were disclosed (e.g., landslides, slope instability, and risks associated with clay/bentonite areas). Any potential impacts resulting from the Phase I Wind Turbine Development would be substantively similar both qualitatively and quantitatively to the impacts described in the CCSM Project FEIS. No new risks or potential impacts are anticipated.</p>	Heather Schultz
NI	Land Use	<p>The CCSM Project FEIS found that construction, operation, and decommissioning of the CCSM Project are not expected to affect land uses, federal land use designations and current land use authorizations. The anticipated environmental impacts to Land Use resulting from the Proposed Action for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development are sufficiently analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to, the selected alternative identified in the CCSM Project ROD. The Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site is within the conceptual area of development (defined as the Application Area in the EIS) and so land use impacts were sufficiently disclosed in Section 4.4 of the CCSM Project FEIS.</p>	Heather Schultz
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)	<p>The 2008 Rawlins RMP indicated there are no designated or proposed ACECs in the CCSM Project Area.</p>	Heather Schultz
NP	BLM Natural Areas	<p>The 2008 Rawlins RMP did not identify any natural areas in the CCSM Project Area.</p>	David Hullum
NP	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	<p>The 2008 Rawlins RMP did not identify any prime or unique farmlands in the CCSM Project Area.</p>	Heather Schultz
NI	Fuels/Fire Management	<p>Fuels/Fire Management was not addressed as a stand-alone resource in the CCSM Project FEIS. Analysis of Fuels/Fire Management was not deemed necessary for the CCSM Project FEIS. It can be reasonably concluded that Fuels/Fire Management analysis for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development is not required because the Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to, the selected alternative identified in the project-wide level ROD, and because it is within the conceptual area of development, and/or the geographic and resource conditions are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. No new information or circumstances related to fuels and fire management are present now that were not present during preparation of the CCSM Project FEIS.</p>	Cheryl Newberry

**Table B-1. Interdisciplinary Team Checklist**

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determinations	Specialist
PI	Paleontological Resources	<p>The direct, indirect, and cumulative effects on paleontological resources that would result from implementation of the Phase I Wind Turbine Development are similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS both qualitatively and quantitatively. A total of 6,533 acres of formations with medium to high potential for important fossils were discussed as being at risk of direct impacts in the CCSM Project FEIS. The total impacts to these formations as a result of the Proposed Action in the Phase I Wind Turbine Development EA are not expected to exceed 6,533 acres.</p> <p>Pedestrian surveys were conducted for paleontological resources within the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site during 2013. Therefore, additional information is available and an analysis of impacts to the fossil localities within the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site is warranted in the EA.</p>	Brent Breithaupt
PI	Range Resources	<p>The impact assessment in the CCSM Project FEIS for Animal Unit Months (AUMs) used an average value based on the best information available at that time. Since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS, new site-specific vegetation surveys have been completed within the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site. These vegetation surveys can now inform a more site-specific assessment of AUM values and an analysis of impacts is warranted in the EA.</p>	Cheryl Newberry
NI	Recreation (including Lands with Wilderness Characteristics)	<p>The CCSM Project FEIS Recreation Analysis Area included all lands within the CCSM Project Area, as well as adjacent lands in the vicinity. Impacts to hunting, dispersed recreation, and other recreation were analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. With the exception of new regulations for the CDNST, which has been added as a stand-alone resource, there is no new information or circumstances that are in place now that were not analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS.</p> <p>Per the CCSM Project FEIS, there are six wilderness inventory units within the Application Area, including one (Sage Creek Basin East) within the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site. The analysis and field inventory conducted by the BLM in 2011 found that these six wilderness inventory units do not have wilderness characteristics in accordance with Section 201 of FLPMA and BLM Washington Office IM 2011-154. Therefore, no additional impact analysis is needed for Lands with Wilderness Characteristics.</p>	David Hullum
NI	Socioeconomics	<p>The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R with respect to socioeconomic resources, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Although two BLM guidance documents were issued since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS (the BLM Socioeconomic Strategic Plan 2012-2022 [BLM 2013b], and BLM Instruction Memorandum No. 2013-131 [BLM 2013c] providing guidance on when and how to consider non-market environment values during NEPA analysis), it can be reasonably concluded, based on review of these documents, that this new guidance would not substantially change the analysis for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development. In addition, peak housing demand for Phase I of the CCSM Project (of which the Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a component) was included as part of the socioeconomic analysis in the Environmental Assessment for Infrastructure Components, and that analysis concludes that no additional significant impacts to housing resources, beyond those disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS, are anticipated from Phase I of the CCSM Project (including the Phase I Wind Turbine Development).</p>	Heather Schultz

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<b>Determination</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Rationale for Determinations</b>	<b>Specialist</b>
NI	Environmental Justice	The CCSM Project FEIS determined that impacts would not disproportionately affect minority or low income populations in the region. The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R, is within the same analysis area (i.e., Carbon County and the State of Wyoming), and the resource conditions are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. No new information or circumstances are in place now that were not analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Therefore, no additional analysis is warranted.	Heather Schultz
PI	Soils	Sensitive soils may be disturbed by construction of the Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Soils data have been updated by PCW during field investigations. These new data add to the overall understanding of soil resources in the CCSM Project Area, and additional disclosures concerning impacts to soil resources are warranted.	Susan Foley
NI	Transportation	The Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R with respect to Transportation Resources, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Although PCW has revised its Transportation Management Plan for the CCSM Project since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS, it can be concluded based on review of that document that impacts to transportation resulting from the Phase I Wind Turbine Development would not substantially change the transportation analysis disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS.	Heather Schultz
PI	Vegetation (including Wetlands and Riparian Zones; Invasive Species)	<p>General Vegetation and Noxious Weeds/Invasive Species: Site-specific survey work has been conducted to document the vegetation communities, as well as the distribution/abundance of noxious weeds and invasive species, within the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site; disclosure of those data is warranted. Impacts to vegetation communities and from the potential spread of noxious weeds and invasive species, resulting from the Proposed Action in this EA, are anticipated to be similar in nature to the impacts described in the CCSM Project FEIS.</p> <p>Wetlands and Riparian Zones: Site-specific Waters of the U.S. (WUS) delineations have been conducted since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS and disclosure of the WUS (wetlands and non-wetland waters) information is warranted in this EA. Impacts to riparian zones resulting from implementation of the Proposed Action were sufficiently analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS because the mapping of riparian zones in the CCSM Project FEIS was conservative and likely overestimated the total area of riparian zones throughout the CCSM Project Area. This assessment is based on site-specific vegetation surveys and the WUS delineation effort conducted in 2013 and 2014, during which time biologists noted that riparian zones were less prevalent than identified in the CCSM Project FEIS.</p>	Cheryl Newberry/ Maureen Starr/ Susan Foley
NI	Visual Resources	The visual impact assessment for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site is consistent with that presented in the CCSM Project FEIS because the geographic and visual resource conditions and impacts are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. It can be reasonably concluded that the site-specific engineering design of the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site would not substantially change the analysis of visual impacts and that visual impacts would be similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. The Phase I wind turbines are located within the Wind Development Areas defined in the CCSM Project FEIS and ROD.	David Hullum

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PI	Water Resources (Surface water and floodplains)	<p>Road crossing over drainages that utilize culverts or bridges may impact floodplains by adding flow impediments or by restricting access to the floodplain. The CCSM Project FEIS identifies impacts associated with 348 road-stream crossings. Based on jurisdictional delineations conducted for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development, approximately 88 crossings of USACE-jurisdictional areas, including 19 non-wetland WUS and 69 wetland WUS, would be required to construct the Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Some of these crossings occur within the same stream reach but are physically separated. The Proposed Action of the Phase I Wind Turbine Development EA will not result in more than 348 stream crossings. In addition, no new geographic areas (i.e., sub-watersheds) will be impacted by the Phase I Wind Turbine Development than those disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS.</p> <p>However, the number of stream crossings per sub-watershed is different from the CCSM Project FEIS. Additional detail on these crossings by sub-watershed is warranted based on updated information from the site-specific plans of development.</p> <p>Direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the Proposed Action in the Phase I Wind Turbine Development EA would be similar qualitatively to those disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Therefore, the qualitative impact assessment provided in the CCSM Project FEIS will be incorporated by reference in the EA. Surface disturbance acreages and number of stream crossings will be provided by sub-watershed, mirroring Table 4.13-2 of the CCSM Project FEIS.</p>	Kelly Owens
NI	Water (Ground water)	No substantive changes in groundwater drawdowns are anticipated as a result of the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Proposed Action.	Kelly Owens
NI	WHMA	No additional impacts to the Upper Muddy Creek Watershed/Grizzly Wildlife Habitat Management Area (WHMA) or the Red Rim – Grizzly WHMA are proposed for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development other than those disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS. No changes in the WHMA have been made since the CCSM Project FEIS.	Heather Schultz
PI	Big Game (mule deer and pronghorn)	The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has added mapped migration routes for pronghorn and mule deer since publication of the CCSM Project ROD, and therefore, a review of these data and a disclosure of potential impacts to these species migration routes are warranted. In addition, impacts to the mule deer crucial winter range located at the northern end of the CCSM Project Area is warranted to determine if those impacts are consistent with impacts disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS when considered in conjunction with the anticipated impacts associated with the Phase I Infrastructure Components (i.e., Phase I Haul Road and Facilities, West Sinclair Rail Facility, and the Road Rock Quarry).	Heath Cline
NI	Big Game (elk)	No changes to elk migration corridors or crucial winter range have occurred since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS. No additional surveys for elk have been conducted since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS. Therefore, it can reasonably be concluded that impacts to elk are consistent with the information disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS.	Heath Cline

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<b>Determination</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Rationale for Determinations</b>	<b>Specialist</b>
NI	Small Game and Furbearers	The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions related to small game and furbearers are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. No new information or circumstances are in place now that were not analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Both qualitative and quantitative assessments provided in the CCSM Project FEIS are in conformance with the Proposed Action of this EA. No new surveys for these species have been conducted since the publication of the CCSM Project FEIS. Qualitative assessments of impacts for these species are consistent with those presented in the CCSM Project FEIS. Quantitative assessments of impacts to these species were limited to total acres of surface disturbance and miles of roads. No increases in these numbers are anticipated for Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Therefore, no additional analysis is warranted.	Heath Cline
PI	Nongame (bats)	Since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS (BLM 2012b), PCW conducted additional bat surveys. These data were used to prepare a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy (PCW 2015c), which includes measures to avoid and minimize impacts to bats. The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions related to bat populations are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. The CCSM Project FEIS discloses potential direct impacts to bats resulting from fatalities and loss of foraging and roosting habitat, as well as indirect impacts associated with habitat loss and modification. Direct impacts from fatalities associated with collisions from wind turbines as disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS are not anticipated to exceed impacts disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Other direct impacts (loss of foraging and roosting habitat) and the indirect impacts disclosed for bat species in the CCSM Project FEIS are anticipated to be similar qualitatively and quantitatively because the impacts analysis in the CCSM Project FEIS looked at total acres of long-term and short-term disturbance and the total acreage of initial and long-term disturbance for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development (including the acreage from the disturbance of the Infrastructure Component Site) would be less than that identified in the CCSM Project FEIS.	Heath Cline
PI	Birds (migratory birds, and sagebrush obligate species)	Bird surveys have been on-going since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS with emphasis on raptor surveys, discussed under Special Status Species. Since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS (BLM 2012b), PCW has conducted additional avian surveys. These data were used to prepare a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy (PCW 2015c), which includes measures to avoid and minimize impacts to migratory birds. The CCSM Project FEIS disclosed potential direct impacts to these species resulting from collisions with construction equipment and identified that these fatalities are anticipated to be low. Indirect impacts to these bird groups as discussed in the CCSM Project FEIS are anticipated to be similar qualitatively and quantitatively as a result of the Phase I Wind Turbine Development because the indirect impacts analysis in the CCSM Project FEIS looked at total acres of long-term and short-term disturbance. Total surface disturbance proposed in the site-specific EAs (Phase I Wind Turbine Development plus the Infrastructure Component Site) would not exceed that analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS.	Heath Cline

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Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determinations	Specialist
NI	Reptiles and Amphibians	The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions related to reptiles and amphibians are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. No new information or circumstances are in place now that were not analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Both qualitative and quantitative assessments provided in the CCSM Project FEIS are in conformance with the Proposed Action of this EA. No new surveys for these species have been conducted since the publication of the CCSM Project FEIS. Qualitative assessments of impacts for these species are consistent with those presented in the CCSM Project FEIS. Quantitative assessments of impacts to these species were limited to total acres of surface disturbance and miles of roads. No increases in these numbers are anticipated for Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Therefore, no additional analysis is warranted.	Heath Cline
NI	Fisheries	The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions related to fisheries are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. No new information or circumstances are in place now that were not analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Both qualitative and quantitative assessments provided in the CCSM Project FEIS are in conformance with the Proposed Action of this EA. No new surveys for these species have been conducted since the publication of the CCSM Project FEIS. Qualitative assessments of impacts for these species are consistent with those presented in the CCSM Project FEIS. Quantitative assessments of impacts to these species were limited to total acres of surface disturbance and miles of roads. No increases in these numbers are anticipated for Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Therefore, no additional analysis is warranted.	Heath Cline
NP	Black-footed ferret	As identified in the CCSM Project FEIS, surveys were conducted in 2008 to locate and delineate white-tailed prairie dog activity and potential colony complexes within a portion of the CCSM Project Area to determine if black-footed ferrets could occur there. These surveys resulted in no observations of black-footed ferret. The entire State of Wyoming was block-cleared for black-footed ferret in 2013, which is a change in circumstances than those present during CCSM Project FEIS preparation, in which black-footed ferret surveys were still required within white-tailed prairie dog towns. Surveys for black-footed ferret are no longer required in the Bolten Ranch Prairie Dog Complex.	Heath Cline
NI	Western yellow-billed cuckoo	Since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS, the USFWS listed the western yellow-billed cuckoo ( <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> ) as threatened under the ESA. At the time of the publication of the BLM FEIS, the western yellow-billed cuckoo was identified by the Rawlins Field Office as a special status species. The closest documented occurrence of western yellow-billed cuckoo to the CCSM Project Area is within the Medicine Bow National Forest, about 30 miles northeast of the town of Saratoga. During preparation of the CCSM Project FEIS, it was determined that there is no suitable habitat within the CCSM Project Area for this species. Portions of the Section 7 range (USFWS 2013d) overlap the southwestern part of the CCSM Project Area; and surface-disturbing activities resulting from the Phase I Wind Turbine Development are proposed within Section 7 range of this species. Because there is no suitable habitat for this species within the CCSM Project Area, including the Section 7 range, no additional analysis for this species is required in this EA. Section 7 range refers to consultation with the USFWS under the ESA and is defined as the area(s) within which, if an action is proposed, potential effects to the species should be considered. Proposed critical habitat has been identified, but there is no proposed designated critical located in the CCSM Project Area (USFWS 2014).	Heath Cline

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Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determinations	Specialist
NI	Platte River System Species and Colorado River System Species	<p>The USFWS prepared a Biological Opinion (BO) and it was included as Appendix F of the CCSM Project ROD (BLM 2012a) to address potential impacts to the Platte River system species and four federally-listed Colorado River fish species. With respect to the Platte River system species, the USFWS determined in its BO that the CCSM Project, as described, is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the federally endangered whooping crane, interior least tern, and pallid sturgeon, or the federally threatened northern Great Plains population of the piping plover, or the western prairie fringed orchid, in the central and lower Platte River (BLM 2012a). The Federal action is also not likely to destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat for the whooping crane (BLM 2012a). In the BO, the USFWS determined that the CCSM Project may affect and is likely to adversely affect four federally endangered fishes of the Upper Colorado River, but that The Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin (Recovery Program) adequately addresses effects to the species (BLM 2012a).</p> <p>As provided in 50 CFR Section 402.16, re-initiation of formal consultation with the USFWS is required if: (1) the amount or extent of incidental take is exceeded; (2) new information reveals effects of the agency action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not considered in the biological opinion; (3) the agency action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species or critical habitat not considered in the biological opinion; or (4) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the action (BLM 2012b). In instances where the amount or extent of incidental take is exceeded, the specific action(s) causing such take shall be subject to re-initiation expeditiously.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that re-initiation of formal consultation with the USFWS is required for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development EA because the amount and extent of incidental take of the Proposed Action would not exceed the incidental take disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS. The CCSM Project FEIS stated the maximum annual water demand would be 168 acre-feet; based on the site-specific plan of development, PCW anticipates that the maximum annual water demand would be 108 acre-feet. In addition, none of the numbered items (2) through (4), above are applicable to the CCSM Project.</p>	Heath Cline
PI	BLM sensitive mammals: (pygmy rabbit, white-tailed prairie dog, and Wyoming pocket gopher)	As a result of surveys conducted in 2013, additional occurrences of pygmy rabbit, white-tailed prairie dog, and Wyoming pocket gopher were observed since CCSM Project FEIS preparation. Disclosure of the survey results and a review for consistency with the disclosures in the CCSM Project FEIS for these species is warranted for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development.	Heath Cline
NI	Columbian sharp-tailed grouse	Despite site-specific bird surveys, no occurrences of this species have been noted since the publication of the CCSM Project FEIS. Because the resource conditions are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS, and there is no new information or circumstances that are in place now that were not analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS, this species will not be further analyzed in this EA.	Heath Cline

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Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determinations	Specialist
PI	Greater Sage-Grouse, mountain plover, western burrowing owl, and raptors (including golden and bald eagles)	<p>Additional occurrences of these species and/or their habitats have been documented since CCSM Project FEIS preparation. As a result, the general understanding of the species use of the CCSM Project Area has increased. Disclosure of the new information and a review for consistency with the disclosures in the CCSM Project FEIS for these species is warranted for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development. It is not anticipated that additional impacts to eagles other than those disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS would occur as a result of implementation of the Proposed Action of this EA.</p> <p>In addition, since publication of the CCSM Project FEIS (BLM 2012b), the State of Wyoming has published a revised Greater Sage-Grouse core area policy (Executive Order 2015-4), BLM has issued the Regional ROD and Wyoming ARMPA for Greater Sage-Grouse (BLM 2015b), and the USFWS has issued a technical report and listing decision for the Greater Sage-Grouse. These documents alter the management framework for Greater Sage-Grouse that was analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS (BLM 2012b). Therefore, the description of the affected environment and potential impacts that could result requires review for consistency with the current management framework.</p>	Heath Cline
NI	BLM Sensitive reptiles and amphibians (Great Basin spadefoot toad, and northern leopard frog)	Consistent with the Wildlife Monitoring and Protection Plan contained in the CCSM Project ROD, amphibian and reptile monitoring was accomplished through opportunistic wildlife observations while performing other wildlife surveys. No occurrences of these species were recorded. Therefore, the subsequent survey results are in conformance with the information disclosed for these species in the CCSM Project FEIS.	Heath Cline
NI	BLM Sensitive fish	None of the disturbance areas associated with the Proposed Action contain suitable habitat for special status fish species. Downstream, indirect impacts to the three BLM-sensitive fish species present in Muddy Creek were sufficiently analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS.	Heath Cline
NP	BLM Sensitive plants	Additional habitat assessments for sensitive plants were conducted since the CCSM Project FEIS preparation. No suitable habitat for sensitive plant species has been identified within areas proposed for the Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Appendix O of the site-specific plan of development (PCW 2015a) provides additional detail on these habitat assessments.	Heath Cline

**Table B-1. Interdisciplinary Team Checklist**

<b>Determination</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Rationale for Determinations</b>	<b>Specialist</b>
NI	Noise and Human Health	The CCSM Project FEIS discusses noise-associated impacts resulting from typical construction equipment, vehicle traffic, and blasting. The impact assessment determined if there were residences within 1,600 feet of construction activity (the distance at which noise impacts could occur per EPA guidance) and then determined the noise level (in dB(A)) that those residences may experience as result of standard construction equipment. Significant impacts from construction noise to residences were disclosed in the CCSM Project FEIS. No new residences have been identified in or within 1,600 feet of the Phase I Wind Turbine Development Site. The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is a feature of, or essentially similar to the preferred alternative 1R, is within the same analysis area, and the resource conditions related to noise and human health are sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. No new information or circumstances are in place now that were not analyzed in the CCSM Project FEIS. Qualitative assessments of impacts from noise and to human health are consistent with those presented in the CCSM Project FEIS. Quantitative assessments of impacts from noise and to human health may vary slightly from those disclosures in the CCSM Project FEIS due to final engineering changes but it can be reasonably concluded that no additional significant impacts beyond those already disclosed are anticipated for Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Therefore, no additional analysis is warranted.	Heather Schultz
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	The 2008 Rawlins RMP indicated there are no designated or proposed WSRs in the CCSM Project Area.	Heather Schultz
NP	Wilderness/WSAs	The 2008 Rawlins RMP indicated there are no wilderness areas or WSAs in the CCSM Project Area.	Heather Schultz
NP	Wild Horses and Burros	The 2008 Rawlins RMP indicated there are no wild horse herds in the CCSM Project Area and no sightings of wild horses have been made since publication of that document.	Heather Schultz