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To: Oregon District Managers and Field Office Managers

From: Branch Chief of Lands and Mineral Resources (OR-936)

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Coordination on Energy Right-of-Way Projects in the State of Oregon - MOU-BLM-OR936-0903

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Oregon has received numerous right-of-way (ROW) applications for energy development and transmission projects on public lands. Some of these projects have the potential to affect Federal trust resources under the jurisdiction of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

The Oregon State Offices of the BLM and the Service have recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) BLM-OR936-0903 to improve coordination on energy ROW projects in Oregon and promote an effective and cooperative process to provide technical assistance, including Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultations. The MOU also serves as a guiding document for the development of cost reimbursement agreements between the BLM and the Service for individual energy ROW projects. It is anticipated that most energy ROW projects on public lands in Oregon will fall under the MOU guidelines.

A copy of the MOU is attached for distribution to your staff. Please ensure that employees are informed of the BLM responsibilities identified in the MOU, which include:

1. Notification to the Service of pending and future energy ROW applications received by the BLM.

2. Funding to the Service from the cost reimbursement agreement with the ROW applicant for the direct expenses in the completion of technical assistance, including ESA consultations for energy ROW projects covered under this MOU.
The Service contact for energy ROW projects is Doug Young, Energy Projects Coordinator, and can be reached at 503-231-6179 or by e-mail at Doug_Young@fws.gov. Questions concerning BLM responsibilities in the MOU can be directed at John Styduhar, Right-of-Way Project Manager, at 503-808-6454 or by email at John_Styduhar@blm.gov.

**Districts with Unions** are reminded to notify their unions of this Information Bulletin and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you assistance in this matter.

Signed by
Fred O’Ferrall
Branch Chief for Lands & Minerals Resources

Authenticated by
Rhondalyn J. Darnell
Records Section

Attachment(s)
1 - MOU-BLM-OR936-0903 (5 pp)

Distribution
WO-350 (Ron Montagna)

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