



CHAPTER 5.0

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

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The Proposed Project is on public lands primarily managed by the Challis Field Office of the Idaho Bureau of Land Management (BLM). However, a variety of other organizations, agencies and people maintain an interest in the area or use the area for specific purposes. These include, but are not limited to the following: the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes; Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); Idaho Department of Lands (IDL); Idaho Transportation Department (ITD); Custer County; grazing permittees; private landowners; and mining claimants. BLM established a coordinated effort for participation in the analysis process by the following:

- Through formal consultation with the Tribes;
- Through contacting, meeting with and providing information to various groups and local governments; and
- By seeking the active participation of the public in the scoping process and throughout the analysis process.

This chapter addresses the consultation and coordination that has taken place in both an informal and formal setting with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes; Federal, state and local governments; interest groups; and the general public.

5.1 SPECIFIC CONSULTATION ACTIONS

5.1.1 Formal and Informal Government-to-Government Consultation with Tribes

During the initial public scoping period the BLM held an official consultation meeting with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Business Council on January 12, 2006. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information on the Proposed Project, answer questions, and solicit Tribal input. On this same date a letter from the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes providing comments on the proposed quarry expansion was received by the BLM.

Table 5.1-1 lists chronologically meetings and consultation with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes since the initial public scoping period. Consultation occurred prior to the preparation of this document as part of the actions associated with the Environmental Assessment prepared for the Three Rivers Stone Quarry Expansion in 2004 (USDI-BLM 2004). These records of consultation are also included in Table 5.1-1.

Table 5.1-1. Consultation with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes.

Date	Type of Contact
February 26, 2003	Technical staff of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes are given copies of the Amended Plan of Operations (APOO) at a meeting in Fort Hall.
July 2003	Formal government-to-government consultation was initiated and BLM requested comments from the Tribes.
September 16, 2003	BLM had a formal coordination meeting at the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes tribal offices with the Fort Hall Business Council to discuss the proposed operations and the environmental assessment.
November 4, 2003	Fort Hall Business Council provided the BLM with written comments and concerns regarding the APOO.
January 12, 2006	Consultation meeting between BLM and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, including Fort Hall Business Council. Power Point presentation made to Tribes. Fort Hall Business Council provided the BLM with written comments and concerns regarding the proposed expansion of the quarry.
June 27, 2006	Mine site visit and visual resource field assessment with Iralene V. Osborne of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes.
July 3, 2006	Letter to Iralene Osborne of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes from URS Corporation (URS) staff regarding the June 2006 site visit. Photographs of site visit attached.
August 15, 2006	Transmittal Form to Iralene Osborne of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes from URS noting enclosure of an additional requested CD of photographs taken during the June site visit.

5.1.2 Intergovernmental (State and Local) and Interest Group Coordination

Members of state, county, city governments and interest groups were contacted about the Proposed Project and invited to comment. In response, State agencies including the IDL and the Idaho Geological Survey, and the Lemhi & North Custer County Economic Development Corporation submitted comment letters through the public scoping process. In addition, comment letters were received from the Western Watersheds Project and the Idaho Conservation League. A field tour of the quarry was conducted with the Challis Experimental Stewardship Group in June 2007.

5.1.3 Resource Advisory Council

A resource Advisory Council (RAC) is an advisory board established by the Governor of Idaho to coordinate with the BLM and provide input on important issues. A RAC consists of members of the public; each representing one or more of the many resources the BLM manages. Early on in the analysis process, the Idaho Falls District RAC was presented with

an overview of the Proposed Project and invited to participate in the analysis. The RAC was first introduced to the project at a RAC meeting on January 20, 2005. Ongoing information about the Proposed Project has been presented at additional RAC meetings on June 7, 2005 (included site tour), September 7, 2005, November 29, 2005, March 14, 2006, and September 20, 2006 (included site tour).

5.1.4 Congressional Staffs

Local Congressional Staffs were briefed on the Proposed Project by the Challis Field Office Manager, David Rosenkrance at meetings in Idaho Falls on January 19, 2006 and July 18, 2006.

5.1.5 Consultation with Federal Agencies

The BLM, NMFS and USFWS operate under an interagency agreement in a cooperative approach to fish and wildlife management. The BLM enters into consultation with the USFWS pursuant to Section 7 of the *Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended*. The consultation process includes both “informal” and “formal” consultation. A biological evaluation process is used by these agencies to identify which listed or proposed species could be affected by the proposed action, to evaluate the possible effects, and to determine if formal consultation is required. In December 2003 a Biological Assessment (BA) for aquatic species was prepared based on the BLM Preferred Alternative from the 2004 EA. On December 23, 2003 the USFWS provided a letter concurring with the finding of the BA of “may affect, not likely to adversely affect” for bull trout or their proposed critical habitat. On January 22, 2004 the NMFS also provided a letter concurring with the findings of the BA.

Since Alternative D involves actions not described in the BA upon which these consultations were based in 2003, consultation would be undertaken with the USFWS and NMFS to update concurrence for threatened and endangered fish species. Since no impacts to Federally listed terrestrial species would result from implementation of the proposed alternatives, a BA for terrestrial species would not be submitted to the USFWS.

Initial Public Scoping Mailing List

At the beginning of the NEPA process, a mailing list of approximately 42 interested parties was developed. The mailing list included names and addresses from existing BLM mailing lists, potentially affected Federal, state and local agencies, organizations, Tribes, and other interested private parties. The list was used to inform the interested parties, through project publications, of various opportunities for their involvement in the Proposed Project.

The initial mailing list was used to include interested parties during the course of the project through newsletters. A Public Scoping Notice Newsletter was prepared and mailed on October 28, 2005. The Notice invited the public to participate in the scoping process and to comment on the Proposed Project. The mailing address and email address for submitting comments were provided in the scoping newsletter as well as a pre-addressed comment form. The Public Scoping Notice Newsletter served to inform the recipients of the public scoping process for the preparation of the EIS for the Proposed Project and the time, date, and location of the scheduled scoping meetings. The notice included background information on the Proposed Project, the purpose and need, and identified preliminary resource issues.

A letter was mailed on November 2, 2005 with information correcting an error that was contained within the original newsletter. The first and third page of the newsletter incorrectly stated that the public scoping process would continue through November 21, 2005. The Notice of Intent published in the Federal Register on October 21, 2005 indicates that the scoping period will be open for 45 days. Therefore, the correct scoping period for the Three Rivers Stone Quarry Expansion EIS was from October 21, 2005 through December 5, 2005. The public scoping period for the proposed Three Rivers Stone Quarry Expansion ended on December 5, 2005. This letter was mailed to all parties that had received the Scoping Notice Newsletter.

5.1.6 Public Scoping Meetings

Public scoping meetings were held in Challis, Idaho on November 16, and in Boise, Idaho on November 17, 2005. The scoping meetings were held in an “Open House” format and featured informal, one-on-one question and answer interactions by interdisciplinary team members. Attendees signed a registration sheet as they entered the room. Team members then escorted attendees to stations set up around the room, which detailed the proposed action, resource issues, planning criteria, Proposed Project design, proposed alternatives to be analyzed in the EIS, and a proposed schedule for completing the EIS. Following presentations, attendees were encouraged to mail in written comments/questions or to sit and fill out comment cards specific to the Proposed Project. Table 5.1-2 lists the agencies, groups and individuals who responded during the scoping process.

Table 5.1-2. Agencies, Groups and Individuals Who Responded During the Scoping Process.

Agencies	
Federal	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
Citizens Groups	
Western Watersheds Project	North Custer & Lemhi County Economic Development Corporation
Idaho Conservation League	
Individuals	
Monte Severe	Jackie Ingram
D.W. "Pete" Peters	Virginia Gillerman
Patricia Maloney	Danny L. Hazzard
Ms. Helen Stands	

5.2 LIST OF PREPARERS

Personnel contacted or consulted during preparation of this Draft EIS are listed in Table 5.2-1. The list of preparers and participants is given in Table 5.2-2.

Table 5.2-1. Personnel Contacted or Consulted for the Three Rivers Stone Quarry Expansion Project.

Agency or Organization	Name	Position
BLM Challis Field Office	Dave Rosenkrance	Challis Field Office Manager
	Keith Andrews	Wildlife Biologist
	Jeff Christenson	Outdoor Recreation Planner
	Arn Berglund	Fisheries Biologist
	Carol Hearne	Archaeologist
	Patricia Jones	Hydrologist
	Dana Perkins	Ecologist
	Ken Gardner	Geologist
	Carren Morgan	Rangeland Management Specialist
BLM Idaho Falls District	Joe Kraayenbrink	Idaho Falls District Manager
	Chuck Horsburgh	Project Manager
	David Howell	Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Sandi Arena	Wildlife Biologist

Table 5.2-1. Personnel Contacted or Consulted for the Three Rivers Stone Quarry Expansion Project.

Agency or Organization	Name	Position
Idaho Department of Fish and Game	Greg Painter	Environmental Staff Biologist Salmon River Field Office
	Beth Waterbury	Non-Game Wildlife Biologist, Salmon River Field Office
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes	Iralene Osborne	Visual Resources
Independent Contractor	Caryol Elzinga	Plant Ecologist

Table 5.2-2. List of Preparers and Participants for the Three Rivers Stone Quarry Expansion Project.

Name	Education/Experience	Draft EIS Responsibility
BLM Interdisciplinary Team		
Chuck Horsburgh	BS Geology 32 Years Experience	Project Manager
Dave Rosenkrance	BS Engineering 16 Years Experience	Challis Field Office Manager
Keith Andrews	BS Wildlife Biology 17 Years Experience	Wildlife
Jeff Christenson	BS Forestry/Recreation Management 11 Years Experience	Recreation, VRM
Arn Berglund	BS Wildlife and Fisheries Resources 19 Years Experience	Fisheries
Ryan J. Beatty	BS Fisheries Science and Limnology, MS Zoology 6 Years Experience	Fisheries
Carol Hearne	BA Anthropology, MS Cultural Resource Management 17 years Experience	Cultural Resources
Patricia Jones	BS Geology 11 Years Experience	Hydrology, Hazardous Materials, Roads

Table 5.2-2. List of Preparers and Participants for the Three Rivers Stone Quarry Expansion Project.

Name	Education/Experience	Draft EIS Responsibility
Dana Perkins	BS Animal Science and Wildlife Biology, MS Renewable Natural Resources, Ph. D. Ecology 31 Years Experience	Botany
Ken Gardner	BS Geology, MS Geochemistry 15 years Experience	Minerals and Geology
David Howell	BA Mass Communications, M. Ed. Educational Studies 16 Years Experience	Public Affairs
URS Corporation		
Aaron English	BS Wildlife Biology 14 Years Experience	Project Manager, Public Involvement
Dave Schwarz	BS, MS, and PhD Geology 20 Years Experience	Geology, Minerals, Soils and Hydrology
Suzy Cavanagh	BS and MS Geology 9 Years Experience	Geology and Soils
Brandt Elwell	BS Geography, MS Forestry 11 Years Experience	GIS Analysis
Marcy Westover	BS Botany 6 Year Experience	Vegetation
Kavi Koleini	BS Environmental Science 7 Years Experience	Visual Resources
Jarod Blades	BS Environmental Science 7 Years Experience	Wildlife Resources
Sheyna Wisdom	BS Biology, MS Marine Science 8 Years Experience	Noise
Mark Storm	BS Aeronautics and Astronautics 15 Years Experience	Noise
Peter Martinez	MA GIS 12 Years Experience	Data Management and Administrative Record Management
Rebecca Thompson	BS Botany, MS Wildlife Biology 10 Years Experience	Biological Resources

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Name	Education/Experience	Draft EIS Responsibility
Ryan Baum	BS Biology, MS Geographic Information Sciences 3 Years Experience	GIS
Sandra Steele	BBA Management 17 Years Experience	Document Production, Coordination, Quality Assurance
Visual Genesis		
Jason Pfaff	BS Landscape Architecture 11 Years Experience	Visual Resources/Computer Simulations
Ted Bierman	BS Cartography 4 Years Experience	Visual Resources/Computer Simulations
Dan Green and Associates		
Dan Green	PhD Resource Economics 35 Years Experience	Socioeconomics