

**Pilot Pacific Northwest Regional Infrastructure Team  
Steering Committee Meeting/Conference Call  
Meeting Summary - DRAFT**  
Friday, January 31, 2014  
1:30 to 3:00 P.M. Pacific Standard Time

<b>TYPE OF MEETING &amp; LOCATION</b>	In-person Portland, Oregon at BLM OR/WA State Office & Conference Call for Idaho Members	
<b>SUMMARY PREPARED BY</b>	Robin Estes, Program Analyst, OR/WA BLM	
<b>STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS &amp; OTHER ATTENDEES</b>	<p><b><u>USDI-Bureau of Land Management (BLM)</u></b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Murphy, Acting Idaho State Director; Steering Committee Member  <input type="checkbox"/> David Murphy, Idaho Branch Chief; Coordinating Staff  <input type="checkbox"/> Theresa Hanley, OR/WA Associate State Director; Steering Committee Member  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Harris, OR/WA Associate Deputy State Director  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred O’Ferrall, OR/WA Branch Chief for Land, Minerals and Energy Resources  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robin Estes, OR/WA Program Analyst for Land, Minerals and Energy Resources; Coordinating Staff</p> <p><b><u>USDI-Office of the Secretary</u></b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Allison O’Brien, Regional Environmental Officer, Office of Environmental Policy &amp; Compliance; Steering Committee Member</p> <p><b><u>USDI-Fish &amp; Wildlife Service (USFWS)</u></b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theresa Rabot, Assistant Regional Director for Ecological Service, Region 1; Steering Committee Member  <input type="checkbox"/> Stefanie Stravakas; Coordinating Staff</p>	<p><b><u>Idaho State Governor’s Office</u></b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Chatburn, Administrator of Governor’s Office of Energy Resources; Steering Committee Member</p> <p><b><u>Oregon State Governor’s Office</u></b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Wolf, Director of Regional Solutions; Steering Committee Member  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Howard, Special Projects Coordinator; Coordinating Staff  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Giquere, Director Government Affairs, Ball Janik LLP</p> <p><b><u>Washington State Governor’s Office</u></b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jesus Sanchez, Director of the Governor’s Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance &amp; Steering Committee Member  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Bogner, Supervisor, Governor’s Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance; Coordinating Staff</p>
<b>HANDOUTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting agenda and Sakhir Transition Memo for PNWRIT dated November 26, 2014.</li> </ul>	

**AGENDA TOPICS**

<b>WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW/REFINEMENT</b>		FRED O’FERRAL
<b>WELCOME, AGENDA REVIEW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fred O’Ferrall conducted a roll call.</li> <li>Fred welcomed participants to the meeting and gave them an opportunity to introduce themselves.</li> <li>Fred reviewed the agenda and verified that agenda items were appropriate for this meeting. Agenda item order was rearranged slightly and an agenda item was added to prepare for the Secretary of the Interior’s planned visit with the PNWRIT Steering Committee on February 4, 2014.</li> </ul>	

**DISCUSSION OF INTERNAL FRAMEWORK TO BEST ACHIEVE PNWRIT GOALS**

FRED O'FERRAL &  
STEERING  
COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS

AGENDA ITEMS,  
DISCUSSION  
AND/OR  
DECISIONS

- 1. What is the collective commitment to the PNWRIT from Steering Committee Members?**
  - Steering Committee Members affirmed that they remained committed to the goals and objectives of the PNWRIT. The governors' representatives expressed that they had high expectation for the PNWRIT effort and that they expect the Secretary's Office to be directly involved in this effort not just BLM and USFWS.
  
- 2. Was funding provided by DOI or OMB to implement the PNWRIT effort?**
  - Fred said that no funding has been provided to date and said that he would inquire if DOI planned on providing funding in the future.
  
- 3. What will the focus be for the PNWRIT moving forward? What projects and/or initiatives should the PNWRIT focus on in 2014?**
  - Steering Committee Members reviewed their list of ten projects identified in the September 30, 2013 PNWRIT Plan for Implementation and after a short discussion choose two proposed transmission line projects to focus on. The two projects are Pacific Power's proposed Vantage to Pomona Heights 230 kV Transmission Line Project in Washington State and Idaho Power's proposed Boardman to Hemingway 500 kV Transmission Line Project in Idaho and Oregon states.
  - The three categories of PNWRIT Priorities will be applied to these two proposed projects: (1) identify regionally significant projects (2) identify broad process improvements (3) identify effective mitigation strategies and opportunities across the region.
  
- 4. How will the PNWRIT be managed - brainstorm on how to support this effort in the future. Who will perform all the administrative work necessary to support the PNWRIT i.e., scheduling meetings, facilitating meetings, preparing notes, drafting documents and reports, etc.? Can a professional facilitator/meeting manager (contractor) be hired by the collective PNWRIT to take on these tasks?**
  - It was agreed that the Steering Committee would hold quarterly meetings as specified in the Plan for Implementation. These quarterly meetings would also produce quarterly progress reports to the Steering Committee on Federal Infrastructure Permitting Review Process Improvement per the September 2013 Declaration of Cooperation.
  - Fred stated that BLM OR/WA was committed to providing support to the PNWRIT, that the new OR/WA Associate State Director Theresa Hanley will be representing the OR/WA State Director and that Robin Estes would be her "Coordinating Staff" to provide assistance to the PNWRIT.
  - Robin Estes discussed the need for administrative and technical assistance to accomplish the goals and objectives of the PNWRIT. She described the types of support she thinks is needed. She shared that the Western Governors' Association (WGA) currently has a consultant providing such support to its Transmission Siting Task Force. She asked the Steering Committee for its approval for her to contact WGA to discuss the possibility of a PNWRIT- WGA partnership that would further the goals of both groups and allow the PNWRIT to utilize WGA's existing consultant contract.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Steering Committee approved Robin’s request to contact WGA and discuss a partnership proposal.</li> </ul> <p><b>5. Prepare for the Secretary of Interior’s planned visit with PNWRIT Steering Committee on February 4, 2014.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cathy Harris briefed the Steering Committee on OR/WA BLM’s planning for the Secretary of the Interior’s visit. Cathy answered questions and asked for the contact information of those who would be attending the meeting with Secretary.</li> </ul>
<p><b>REVIEW MILESTONE TASKS COMING UP</b></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning for Secretary of the interior’s visit.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PROPOSED NEXT STEPS</b></p>	
	<p><b>PNWRIT Management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule quarterly Steering Committee Meetings for the remainder of 2014, 2015 and 2016; select Steering Committee Member Host and location; assign a meeting facilitator, note keeper and report writer.</li> <li>Identify a “Coordinating Staff” for each Steering Committee Member/Co-chair who would be responsible for accomplishing staff work assignments resulting from Steering Committee Meetings.</li> <li>Explore opportunities to partner and leverage the work of the PNWRIT and WGA.</li> </ul> <p><b>Identify Strategies for Broad Process Improvements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide on a forum to receive regular updates on the two transmission line projects from BLM project managers, State/Local project managers and the project proponents.</li> <li>Have BLM project managers provide the Steering Committee with their current, detailed project schedules.</li> <li>Determine if Strike Teams should be established for the projects after discussions with project managers and the proponent.</li> <li>Reach out to project proponents and project managers requesting that they identify barriers to streamlining the environmental review and permitting process specific to their projects.</li> <li>Identify the “Best Practices” that have been employed by state and federal project managers and the proponent on the two projects and determine if and how those practices could be institutionalized.</li> <li>Review the final settlement from the Energy Policy Act to determine how it applies to the goals and objectives of the PNWRIT.</li> <li>Review the work of the WGA’s Transmission Siting Task Force to determine how it applies to the goals and objectives of the PNWRIT.</li> </ul> <p><b>Identify Strategies to Identify and Promote Enhanced, Landscape-level Mitigation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunities to leverage the conservation, restoration and mitigation work underway by numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the TNC, TPL, Joint Ventures, Western Rivers, etc. Consider establishment of a “Mitigation Project Clearinghouse”.</li> <li>Explore opportunities to include Indian Tribes in these discussions and efforts i.e., creating economic opportunities for tribal youth in restoration of native habitats,</li> </ul>

	<p>growing native plants, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore opportunities to “test” Regional Mitigation Strategies on these two projects. Include project proponents in these discussions.</li> <li>• Consider development of a Regional Mitigation Framework for Sage-grouse in coordination with other statewide and national efforts.</li> <li>• Review and explore opportunities to leverage the conservation, restoration and mitigation work of existing state and federal efforts such as USDA Conservation Reserve Program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, USDI’s Rapid Regional Assessment Process, WGAs Critical Habitat Assessment Tool, etc.</li> </ul>
--	--

**ACTION ITEMS**

Action items	Person responsible	Due date
1. Determine if DOI or OMB will be providing funding to implement the PNWRIT effort.	Fred O’Ferrall	2/28/2014
2. Determine if the Office of the Secretary will be providing a representative to the PNWRIT Steering Committee.	Robin Estes	2/28/2014
3. Contact WGA regarding partnership opportunity and ability to supply administrative and technical support through existing WGA contract for Transmission Siting Task Force.	Robin Estes	2/7/2014
4. Schedule next quarterly Steering Committee Meeting.	Tim Murphy & Robin Estes	3/7/2014
5. Draft and circulate Steering Committee Meeting Summary for review, edit, correction, etc., by Steering Committee Members.	Robin Estes	3/7/2014
6. Steering Committee Members review Meeting Summary and provide comments, edits, etc., back to Robin Estes.	Steering Committee Members	3/28/2014
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		