

CHAPTER 5. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The issue identification section of Chapter 1 identifies those issues analyzed in detail in Chapter 4. Appendix A provides the rationale for issues that were considered but not analyzed further. The issues were identified through the public and agency involvement process described in Sections 5.2 and 5.3 below.

5.2 PERSONS, GROUPS, AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

The following lists contain the organizations, agencies, and individuals that were contacted or consulted during the scoping process and preparation of the draft EIS. Please note that coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been ongoing during the preparation of this document. Formal Section 7 consultation under the authority of the Endangered Species Act will be initiated and finalized following the public comment period and prior to publication of the Final EIS. Please also note that Section 106 consultation with the Utah State Historic Preservation Office and any potentially affected Native American Tribes has been ongoing, and will be finalized during or following the public comment period.

5.2.1 FEDERAL OFFICES

Ashley National Forest	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Bureau of Indian Affairs	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8
Dinosaur National Monument	US Fish and Wildlife Service

5.2.2 TRIBES

Ute Indian Tribe

5.2.3 STATE OFFICES

State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration	Utah Natural Heritage Program
State Resource Development Coordination Committee	Utah State Division of History
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining

5.2.4 LOCAL OFFICES

Daggett County Commissioners	Uintah County
Duchesne County	Uintah County Commissioners
Duchesne County Chamber of Commerce	Uintah County Library
Duchesne County Commissioners	Uintah County Planning Office
Duchesne County Planning and Zoning	Uintah County Public Lands Committee
Uintah and Ouray Agency	Vernal Area Chamber of Commerce

5.2.5 SPECIAL INTEREST

American Rock Art Research Association	National Trust for Historic Preservation
Apollo Publishing	Natural Resources Defense Council
Beecher Films and Photography	Nichols Expeditions
Center for Native Ecosystems	Nine Mile Canyon Coalition
River Runners for Wilderness	National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)
Coloradans for Utah Wilderness	Oil and Gas Accountability Project
Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance	Ouray High School
Riverhawks	Sierra Club
Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Utah	Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA)
Department of Integrative Biology, Brigham Young University (BYU)	The Nature Conservancy
Earth Justice	The Wilderness Society
Outdoor Recreation and Fitness Law Review	Uintah Mountain Club
Rock the Earth	University of Idaho, McCall Field Campus
Forest Guardians	Utah Environmental Congress
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center	Utah Rivers Council
Chaco, Inc	Western Land Exchange Project
National Center for Atmospheric Research	Western Wildlife Conservancy

5.2.6 INDUSTRY

Bjork, Lindley, & Little	QEP Uinta Basin, Inc
Buys & Associates	Questar
Cimarex Energy	Red Man Pipe Supply
EOG Resources, Inc	RW Jones Trucking
Hiko Bell Mining & Oil Company	TRC Mariah Associates, Inc
Lear and Lear	Utah Cattlemen's Association
Lexco, Inc.	Ute Energy
OSO Energy Resources Corp.	Ziegler Chemical & Mineral Corp
Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc.	

5.2.7 MEDIA

Deseret News	The Salt Lake Tribune
High Country News	Uintah Basin Standard
KNEU Radio	Vernal Express
KVEL Radio	

5.3 COORDINATION

Sue Nall - USACE - Cooperating Agency under the Energy Pilot Office program. Comments on proposal received 11-9-06, and 1-18-07

Diane Coltharp - Uintah County - Invited to be a Cooperator in the EIS process April 5, 2006. Invitation accepted April 19, 2006. Invited to and comments on draft document accepted during NEPA coordination meetings held on August 6 and 13, 2007.

Price Field Office - Coordination meeting held September 29, 2005.

Bekee Megown - USFWS - Cooperating Agency under the Energy Pilot Office program. Invited to and comments on draft document accepted during NEPA coordination meetings held on August 6 and 13, 2007.

Ute Tribe - Invited to be a Cooperator in the EIS process April 5, 2006. No response.

Duchesne County - Invited to be a Cooperator in the EIS process April 5, 2006. Invitation accepted April 19, 2006.

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Uintah and Ouray Agency - Invited to be a Cooperator in the EIS process April 5, 2006. Invitation accepted April 19, 2006.

5.4 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A legal Notice of Intent (NOI) was published in the *Federal Register* on February 15, 2006 announcing the Vernal Field Office's preparation of an EIS on the Gasco Energy Field Development Project. Scoping notification letters were distributed to interested individuals and organizations. Federal, state, and local government and land management agencies received the scoping notification, as did public interest and special interest organizations, businesses, and stakeholders.

A 30-day scoping period was held from February 10 to March 13, 2006, during which the public and other stakeholders could provide comments to the VFO about the proposed EIS. Three public meetings were held by the BLM on: Monday, February 27, 2006 at the Western Park Convention Center in Vernal, Utah; Tuesday, February 28, 2006 at the Duchesne County Administration Building in Duchesne, UT; and Thursday, March 2, 2006, at the Holiday Inn in Price, Utah. These meetings were held to allow interested persons an opportunity to learn about the Gasco proposal, discuss concerns with resource specialists, and most importantly, to submit their comments.

At the meeting, a series of 14 display boards were used to help explain the NEPA process, describe the project in more detail, identify potential issues associated with development of the proposal, and invite visitors to engage in dialogue with agency resource specialists on hand. Attendees were provided a complete information packet, which included a reiteration of the material shown on the display boards, and a comment form. Visitors were encouraged to submit their comments in writing.

The VFO received numerous letters commenting on the proposed EIS during the scoping period. The contents of these letters may be found in the project administrative record. The issues of concern raised during scoping, including the potential impacts resulting from the project, are summarized in Section 1.5 of this EIS.

This Draft EIS will have a public comment period of 45 days during which interested parties may comment. For more information on how to comment, please refer to the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register or to the "Dear Reader Letter" accompanying this draft.

5.5 LIST OF PREPARERS

Table 5-1. List of BLM Preparers

Name	Title	Planning Role
Stephanie Howard	Environmental Coordinator	NEPA Coordination, Socioeconomics
Craig Nicholls	Air Quality Specialist, BLM NSTC	Air Quality
Chuck Patterson	Recreation Planner	Special Designations, Recreation, Visual Resources, Non-WSA Lands with Wilderness Characteristics
Blaine Phillips	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources
Stan Olmstead	Natural Resource Specialist	Floodplains, Water Quality (surface), Wetlands/Riparian, Livestock Grazing
Jesse Salix	Botanist	Vegetation (Invasive/non-native Species)
Clayton Newberry	Botanist	Threatened/Endangered or Candidate Plant Species, Vegetation (including Special Status Plants)
John Mayers	Geologist	Geology/Paleontology
Steve Strong	Natural Resource Specialist	Soils
Naomi Hatch	Realty Specialist	Lands/Access
Brandon McDonald	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife
Delbert Clark	Natural Resource Specialist	Wild Horses, Invasive Weeds
Jerry Kenczka	Assistant Field Manager for Lands and Minerals	Minerals

Table 5-2. List of Non-BLM Preparers

Name	Position	Planning Role
<u>SWCA Environmental Consultants</u>		
Matt Petersen, M.S.	Principal Ecologist	NEPA Oversight and Quality Control
Greg Larson, M.S.	Natural Resource Planner	Project Management; Soils, Vegetation, Special Status Species, Special Designations, Land and Transportation
Elisha Hornung, B.S.	Natural Resource Planner	Livestock, Geology and Minerals
Benjamin Gaddis, M.S.	Natural Resource Planner	Water Resources/Floodplains/Riparian Zones, Wildlife, Recreation
Paul Murphy, Ph.D.	Natural Resource Planner	Paleontology
Laura Burch-Vernon, M.P.A.	Natural Resource Planner	Socioeconomics

Table 5-2. List of Non-BLM Preparers

Name	Position	Planning Role
Steve Knox, B.S.	Natural Resource Planner	NEPA Oversight and Quality Control; Cumulative Impacts
Andrew Williamson, M.S.	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources
David Harris, M.S.	Natural Resource Planner	Visual Resources, Non-WSA Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, Air Quality
George Weekly, M.S.	Natural Resource Planner	Special Designations
Hope Hornbeck, M.S.	Natural Resource Planner	Special Status Species, Technical Editing, Formatting
Janet Guinn, B.S.	Project Coordinator	Technical Editing, Formatting
John Pecorelli, B.S.	Technical Editor	Technical Editing
Linda Tucker-Burfitt, B.A.	Technical Editor	Formatting
Catherine Chatfield, B.A.	GIS Specialist	GIS Mapping and Analysis
<u>Buys and Associates</u>		
Doug Henderer, P.E.; M.S.	Air Quality Specialist	Air Quality
Don Douglas, M.S.	Air Quality Specialist	Air Quality
Daniel Pring, B.S.	Air Quality Specialist	Air Quality
Debra Bain, M.S.	Air Quality Specialist	Air Quality
John Hadley, B.S.	Air Quality Specialist	Air Quality
Chad Powell, B.S.	Air Quality Specialist	Air Quality

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