

Lake Powell Pipeline

Draft Recreation Resource Work Plan

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Section 1 Introduction

The purpose of this work plan is to define the procedures for analyzing impacts on recreation resources for the Lake Powell Pipeline (LPP). This work plan presents the issues and concerns, defines the impact area and significance criteria, describes the analysis methodology, reviews existing data and identifies data needs, references an outline for the Recreation Resources Technical Report, and identifies dependency items and relationships to other resources.

Section 2 Issues

Recreation-related issues and concerns identified during the formal scoping process will be addressed in the analysis for the LPP alternatives. Related questions raised during the informal scoping process have been consolidated into the following issue(s).

- What impacts would occur on existing and proposed recreation from construction and operation of the LPP?
- What impacts would occur on access to recreational facilities and areas?

Additional issues that arise during the formal scoping process, or during the preparation of the analysis, will be added and addressed.

Section 3 Impact Topics

The recreation impact topics include the following:

- Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
- Recreation Management Areas
- Existing and Proposed Recreation Sites
- Special Recreation Permitting
- Recreation Visitation
- Recreation Activities

Section 4

Impact Area and Significance Criteria

4.1 Impact Area

The impact area would include the following:

- Any area directly affected by project feature construction or operations
- Any stream or river and associated corridor that would be subject to water deliveries or alterations in flow

4.2 Significance Criteria for Each Impact Topic

Impacts on recreation are considered significant if construction, operation or maintenance activities would result in any of the following conditions:

- Changes to Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) settings
- Changes to Recreation Management Areas (RMAs) and ROS settings within RMAs
- Changes to existing and proposed recreation sites
- Changes to Special Recreation Permitting
- A reduction or increase in recreation visitation at existing recreation sites during construction or extending beyond the construction period

Section 5

Methodology

5.1 Introduction and Overall Approach

Determination of impacts on recreation resources will involve identifying the ROS settings, RMAs, Recreation Sites, Special Recreation Permits, and other recreation resources in the immediate area of the project, as well as those that exist along the transportation routes that will be used during project construction and operation. Changes to these resources will then be evaluated using best professional judgment and past experience to determine if they would result in any impacts on the recreation resource. Potential impacts from changes in traffic flows on existing recreation resources will be evaluated to determine what effect they may have on the existing sites and their use. Estimates of potential population changes will be used to determine any increase in recreation resources use. A ratio of amount of recreation resources use and population levels will be developed from data presented in the Utah and Arizona State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORPs). Data used in the analysis will consist of recreation resources site data as well as recreation resources use data.

Cumulative impact analysis will be based on the list of other projects that may occur in the future. These will be examined to determine what impacts on recreation resources may occur that would cause a cumulative impact with the impacts projected to occur from the Lake Powell Pipeline.

5.1.1 Definition of Baseline Conditions

Recreation baseline conditions will be defined relative to the following impact topics:

The recreation impact topics include the following:

- Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
- Recreation Management Areas
- Existing and Proposed Recreation Sites
- Special Recreation Permitting
- Recreation Visitation
- Recreation Activities

Information concerning these impact topics will be obtained from available literature, management plans, GIS data (data layers), a site visit, and meetings with resource agency personnel.

5.1.2 Analysis of Alternatives

Impacts on recreation will be analyzed for each of the alternatives, relative to baseline conditions for each of the impact topics. The amount of change between baseline conditions and conditions under the alternatives will be documented as impacts.

5.1.3. Analysis of Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impact analysis will be based on the list of other projects that may occur in the future. These will be examined to determine what impacts on recreation resources may occur that would cause a cumulative impact with the impacts projected to occur from the LPP.

Section 6 Data Needs and Analysis

6.1 Data Needed

The data needed to perform the analysis include:

- Recreation Opportunity Spectrum Settings
- Special Recreation Management Areas
- Extensive Recreation Management Areas
- Results of LPP Visual Resource Studies
- Existing Publicly Managed Recreation Site and Condition Information
- Proposed Publicly Managed Recreation Site Information
- Special Recreation Permitting Information
- Recreation Visitation
- Recreation Activities
- Off-Highway Vehicle Use
- Recreation Sections of all Relevant Resource Management Plans
- Season of Use and Type of Use at Each Recreation Site

- Amount of Dispersed Recreation Use and Type
- Amount of Hunting and Fishing
- Amount of Boating Use Not Associated with Fishing
- State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORPs)
- Existing Private/Tribal Recreation Sites, Conditions, and Use
- Proposed Private/Tribal Recreation Sites

6.2 Data Available and Adequacy

The data required to complete the recreation analysis can be acquired from the following identified and existing sources:

- Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Arizona Strip Final EIS – obtained; adequate
- BLM Kanab Field Office Area of Critical Environmental Concern Draft Report – obtained; adequate
- BLM Kanab Resource Management Plan – obtained; adequate
- BLM San Juan Resource Area Management Plan (1991) – obtained; portions adequate
- BLM Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) Management Plan – obtained; adequate
- Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (GCNRA) Strategic Plan (2007-2011) – obtained; portions adequate
- Arizona SCORP (2003) – obtained; adequate
- Utah SCORP (2003) – obtained; portions adequate

6.3 Additional Data Needs

6.3.1 Primary

The following data will be required in addition to the data described in Section 6.2: (description of new data from field study, acquired from new demographic surveys, or from other resource field study, modeling, etc.)

- Site Visit
- Meetings with Resource Agency Personnel
- Results of LPP Visual Resource Studies
- Results of LPP Traffic Studies
- Results of LPP Botanical Resource Studies
- Results of LPP Soils Studies
- Results of LPP Economics Studies
- Results of LPP Wildlife Studies
- Results of LPP Aquatic Resources Studies
- Results of LPP Land Management Studies

6.3.2 Secondary

The following data will be required in addition to the data described in Section 6.2:

- Recreation GIS data (data layers) from BLM's St. George, Kanab, GSENM, and Monticello Field Offices
- Special Permitting Information
- Recreation Visitation
- Recreation Activities
- Off-Highway Vehicle Use
- Season of Use and Type of Use at Each Recreation Site
- Amount of Dispersed Recreation Use and Type
- Amount of Hunting and Fishing
- Amount of Boating Use Not Associated with Fishing
- Existing Private/Tribal Recreation Sites, Conditions, and Use
- Proposed Private/Tribal Recreation Sites
- Utah Atlas and Gazetteer (DeLorme)
- Arizona Atlas and Gazetteer (DeLorme)

Section 7

Procedures For Developing Mitigation

The analysis of impacts on recreation will be based on the standard operating procedures and measures to avoid or reduce impacts, both of which will be included in the project description chapter of the Draft Recreation Technical Memorandum or Report. The significance criteria for recreation will then be applied to determine if any impact would be significant. Mitigation measures would then be developed to offset significant impacts. The mitigation measures will be based on applicable state and Federal statutes and regulations, past experience and best professional judgment to either satisfy a legal requirement or to satisfy the public interest requirement. In some cases significant impacts may not be able to be mitigated. All reasonably foreseeable mitigation options will be evaluated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Bureau of Land Management, and other responsible federal agencies and factored into the respective decision documents.

Section 8

Technical Report

A technical report will be necessary to document in detail baseline conditions of and potential impacts on recreation resources. The technical report will follow the resource technical report outline common to all resource work plans (see Resource Technical Report Outline).

Section 9

Dependency Items From Other Resources

The following items are required from other MWH Team resource specialists:

- **Visual Resources:** Potential visibility of LPP structures and potential changes to BLM VRM Classes.

- **Noise:** Potential noise generated by LPP construction and operation.
- **Traffic:** LPP construction and post-construction traffic; change in traffic patterns.
- **Botanical Resources:** Potential changes in vegetation created by LPP construction and operation.
- **Soils:** Potential changes in soils created by LPP construction and operation
- **Economics:** Estimated increase in population and location.
- **Wildlife Resources:** Estimated changes in wildlife populations and locations.
- **Aquatic Resources:** Estimated changes in fish populations and locations.
- **Land Management:** Potential changes in land management designations.