

Submitting Your Comments

Platte River Recovery Implementation Program
Proposed First Increment Extension
Environmental Assessment

What Is Scoping?

The scoping process is an opportunity for the public to identify topics to be covered in the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, Proposed First Increment Extension Environmental Assessment (EA) and to provide recommendations to Reclamation. Your input may help Reclamation identify the following:

- Relevant topics to be analyzed in the EA
- Potential alternatives to the Proposed First Increment Extension
- Potential mitigation measures for anticipated impacts of the Proposed First Increment Extension
- People or organizations who are interested in the EA process
- Data gaps and information needs
- New data or information

Why Public Comments Are Important

Public comment periods offer the opportunity for you to be involved in the decision-making process and to offer your thoughts on alternative ways to accomplish the proposal. This is an opportunity for you to offer data that the agency can use in its analysis of the environmental effects of the proposed alternatives, as well as possible mitigation of potential harmful effects of such actions.

The National Environmental Policy Act "... is intended to help public officials make decisions that are based on the understanding of environmental consequences..." (40 Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart 1501[e]). To achieve this, the EA considers the effects of the proposed federal actions on economic, cultural, and natural resources in the project area. Citizens such as you often have valuable information about places and resources they consider important and the potential effects proposed federal actions may have on those places and resources.

Making the Most of Your Comments

While every comment received will be considered, the most useful ones are those that provide specific, detailed information about the effects of the proposed project and issues that should be analyzed in the EA. For example, if a comment states that an action will have "significant environmental effects," further explanation of the relevant causes and environmental effects will help us refine and focus our alternatives and impact analysis. Comments that are solution oriented and provide specific examples will be the most helpful. Comments that contribute to developing alternatives that address the purpose and need for the action will also be appreciated. (Please note that commenting is not a form of "voting" on the Proposed First Increment Extension.)

Example of a Helpful Comment	Example of an Unhelpful Comment
The analysis needs to consider the impacts of land acquisition on local communities and economies.	Stop taking our land!



Public Scoping Comment Card
PLEASE PRINT

Pease submit your comments by mail or email to
Bureau of Reclamation
Attention: Mr. Brock Merrill
P.O. Box 950
Torrington, WY 82240

Email: platteriver@usbr.gov

Date: _____
Name: _____
Organization (if applicable): _____
Email Address: _____
Street Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____

Comments:

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

