

**U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery
SWISP Project Draft EIS Public Meeting**

Meeting Transcript

December 8, 2020 4:30-6:00pm PT

00:00:09.780 --> 00:00:21.210

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Hello everyone, I'd like to welcome you all to the December 8th public meeting for the Bureau of Reclamation Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery SWISP Project Draft EIS.

00:00:21.900 --> 00:00:28.890

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We're going to give folks a few minutes here to join the meeting, and then we will begin the PowerPoint presentation shortly, so please stay tuned.

00:01:48.180 --> 00:01:58.020

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Welcome everyone to today's public meeting. We're going to give folks a few more minutes here to join the meeting. So please stay tuned and we will start the presentation shortly. Thank you.

00:03:04.260 --> 00:03:11.100

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Hello everyone, we're going to go ahead and get started with our public meeting today. I would like to thank you all for joining us today.

00:03:11.760 --> 00:03:19.350

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We appreciate your time and participation. My name is Amanda Biedermann, and I'm going to be one of your meeting facilitators today.

00:03:20.040 --> 00:03:27.570

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Additionally, I have several members of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with me on the meeting today.

00:03:28.290 --> 00:03:39.960

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: From the Bureau of Reclamation, we have David Child, the SWISP project manager; Jason Sutter, the NEPA Co-lead from the Columbia-Pacific Northwest Regional Office;

00:03:40.530 --> 00:03:51.570

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Elizabeth Heether, the NEPA Co-lead from the Columbia-Cascades Area Office; and Rebecca Thompson, the NEPA specialist from the Columbia-Pacific Northwest Regional Office.

00:03:52.530 --> 00:04:04.020

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: From the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, we have Jim Craig, the Leavenworth Fisheries Complex Manager and Mathew Maxey, the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery Manager.

00:04:07.140 --> 00:04:10.260

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I'm now going to go over some ground rules for the meeting today.

00:04:11.010 --> 00:04:23.880

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: First, your microphones and videos will be turned off for the duration of the presentation. You will only be unmuted if and when I unmute you during the Q and A or public comment portion of this meeting today.

00:04:24.720 --> 00:04:33.870

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Second, this meeting is being recorded as part of the project record, and all materials presented today will be provided online through the website.

00:04:34.830 --> 00:04:48.570

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Questions will be addressed during the Question-and-Answer portion of the session at the end of the presentation. We will do our best to address the questions in the order that they come in and to allow everyone an opportunity to voice their questions today.

00:04:49.590 --> 00:04:56.550

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Finally, after we have answered questions submitted during the Q and A, we will then move on to the public comment portion of the meeting,

00:04:57.030 --> 00:05:12.060

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: During which we will accept verbal public comments from participants. Comments may be time-limited today in order to allow everyone who is on the meeting today the opportunity to offer their comments. We ask that you be mindful and respectful of this time limit.

00:05:13.860 --> 00:05:21.960

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: If you do not get the opportunity to offer a verbal public comment today, written public comments can also be submitted via mail or email.

00:05:22.440 --> 00:05:34.770

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And we will provide further information on how you can submit your written comments after the presentation. I'm now going to turn it over to Jason Sutter to lead us through the main part of the presentation for the Draft EIS.

00:05:40.110 --> 00:05:43.920

USBR - Jason Sutter: So my name is Jason setter and I'd like to welcome everyone to the Bureau of Reclamation

00:05:44.130 --> 00:05:53.640

USBR - Jason Sutter: Question-and-Answer/public comment video teleconference for the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery Surface Water Intake Fish Screens and Fish Passage Project or SWISP.

00:05:54.450 --> 00:06:00.030

USBR - Jason Sutter: I'd like to thank everyone participating in today's video conference for your time and involvement in the public comment process.

00:06:00.600 --> 00:06:09.090

USBR - Jason Sutter: During today's hour and a half video conference, we will start with the presentation, providing a brief project background, including the purpose of and need for the project;

00:06:09.630 --> 00:06:14.730

USBR - Jason Sutter: We'll present the proposed action and alternatives and discuss the key differences between them;

00:06:15.180 --> 00:06:21.540

USBR - Jason Sutter: And finally, provide information on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement or Draft EIS Public Comment Process.

00:06:22.050 --> 00:06:31.170

USBR - Jason Sutter: After the presentation, we will conduct a brief Question-and-Answer session and conclude by offering the public an opportunity to provide verbal comments on the Draft EIS.

00:06:31.680 --> 00:06:44.490

USBR - Jason Sutter: Before we start though, I'd like to give David Child, Reclamation's SWISP Project Manager and Jim Craig, the U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service's Leavenworth Fisheries Complex Manager, a chance to provide some opening remarks. David.

00:06:51.840 --> 00:06:56.880

USBR - David Child: Hi. Hi, everybody. Sorry, I just wanted to confirm audio. I think it's working, well I'll go ahead and

00:06:58.710 --> 00:07:01.470

USBR - David Child: Also welcome everyone to this virtual public meeting.

00:07:02.460 --> 00:07:11.580

USBR - David Child: I just want to share that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's mission is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner

00:07:12.270 --> 00:07:25.710

USBR - David Child: In the interest to the American public. This environmental impact statement is an important part of our mission. Thank you for helping us plan this great fish screening, fish passage, and water delivery project to serve the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery.

00:07:27.540 --> 00:07:28.020

USBR - David Child: Thank you.

00:07:34.110 --> 00:07:35.040

USBR - Jason Sutter: And Jim Craig.

00:07:36.780 --> 00:07:43.920

USFWS - Jim Craig: Yeah. Thank you, David. And thank you everyone for participating. I'm Jim Craig. I'm the manager of the Leavenworth Fisheries Complex.

00:07:44.520 --> 00:07:58.380

USFWS - Jim Craig: The complex consists of Winthrop, Entiat, and Leavenworth National Fish hatcheries and collectively these hatcheries implement salmon and steelhead fish production programs as partial mitigation for the construction and operation of Grand Coulee Dam.

00:07:59.520 --> 00:08:08.790

USFWS - Jim Craig: Several assessments of Leavenworth histories complex over the years have noted that much of the infrastructure is nearing the end of its expected working lifetime.

00:08:09.900 --> 00:08:18.330

USFWS - Jim Craig: To the project at hand, the Leavenworth Fish Hatchery's primary point of diversion and water delivery system on Icicle Creek is about 80 years old.

00:08:18.750 --> 00:08:26.040

USFWS - Jim Craig: And reaching, or exceeding, its operational life. In addition, the intake does not meet current fish screening criteria for salmon or steelhead.

00:08:26.850 --> 00:08:38.220

USFWS - Jim Craig: We're working under a Biological Opinion from the National Marine Fisheries Service to have a new screen intake in place and operating by the spring of May 2023, and that is what we are endeavoring to do here.

00:08:39.240 --> 00:08:46.200

USFWS - Jim Craig: Finally, the preservation and conservation of aquatic species in their habitats is fundamental to the mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

00:08:46.620 --> 00:08:58.740

USFWS - Jim Craig: This intake project for the Leavenworth Fish Hatchery will assure we continue to meet fish protection responsibilities and we do sort of way that protects and benefits aquatic species in their habitats in Icicle Creek. Thank you.

00:09:02.190 --> 00:09:03.570

USBR - Jason Sutter: Thank you, David and Jim.

00:09:04.560 --> 00:09:06.630

USBR - Jason Sutter: Alright, so let's start our presentation.

00:09:08.760 --> 00:09:09.330

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next slide.

00:09:11.280 --> 00:09:21.030

USBR - Jason Sutter: Okay. Reclamation is proposing to rehabilitate, replace, and modernize the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery surface water intake and delivery system on Icicle Creek near Leavenworth, Washington.

00:09:21.690 --> 00:09:30.180

USBR - Jason Sutter: As Jim just said, the hatchery was designed and constructed in the late 1930s and early 1940s as mitigation for the construction and operation of Grand Coulee Dam.

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USBR - Jason Sutter: The Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery is one of three hatcheries established by the Grand Coulee fish maintenance project to compensate for anadromous fish losses above Grand Coulee Dam.

00:09:40.500 --> 00:09:47.010

USBR - Jason Sutter: It is operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and funded by Reclamation and the Bonneville Power Administration.

00:09:47.580 --> 00:09:53.940

USBR - Jason Sutter: The hatchery raises and releases 1.2 million spring chinook salmon smolts into Icicle Creek annually.

00:09:54.690 --> 00:10:01.680

USBR - Jason Sutter: The hatchery's primary point of diversion and water delivery system is nearly 80 years old and is reaching or exceeding its operational life.

00:10:02.160 --> 00:10:12.990

USBR - Jason Sutter: Rehabilitation, replacement, and modernization of the hatchery surface water intake and delivery system has been proposed and evaluated several times over the last 20 years. Next slide.

00:10:16.950 --> 00:10:22.110

USBR - Jason Sutter: The SWISP project is located near the city of Leavenworth in Chelan County in the state of Washington.

00:10:22.590 --> 00:10:32.340

USBR - Jason Sutter: The hatchery's surface water and intake delivery system and fish production facilities are located on lands owned by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service adjacent to icicle Creek.

00:10:33.030 --> 00:10:45.780

USBR - Jason Sutter: The Icicle Creek watershed is primarily located in the U.S. Forest Service's Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. In addition, a large portion of the watershed occurs within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area.

00:10:46.830 --> 00:10:47.310

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:10:51.270 --> 00:10:58.860

USBR - Jason Sutter: Currently, the intake facility does not comply with the National Marine Fisheries Service or NMFS criteria for anadromous salmonids.

00:10:59.280 --> 00:11:11.070

USBR - Jason Sutter: The 2017 NMFS biological opinion covering operations requires the Hatchery to have a NMFS-compliant surface water intake and delivery system in place and operating by May 2023.

00:11:11.970 --> 00:11:29.100

USBR - Jason Sutter: The purpose of the SWISP project is to minimize take of ESA-listed fish species, provide fish passage that complies with current regulatory criteria, and ensure safe, efficient, and reliable delivery of the Hatchery's full surface water rights from Icicle Creek. Next.

00:11:31.680 --> 00:11:50.280

USBR - Jason Sutter: Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff have been working closely with many Federal, State, local, and Tribal agencies and stakeholders to develop a project that meets current regulatory requirements and the needs and obligations of the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. Next.

00:11:53.070 --> 00:12:03.120

USBR - Jason Sutter: The SWISP public scoping process began on April 24, 2020 with the publication in the Federal Register of the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for the SWISP project.

00:12:03.720 --> 00:12:16.920

USBR - Jason Sutter: Publication of the Notice of Intent kicked off a 30-day public scoping period for Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes and the public to provide information, identify issues, and offer alternatives for the project.

00:12:17.580 --> 00:12:30.840

USBR - Jason Sutter: Comments received during the scoping helped us identify issues for analysis in the EIS and refine the project alternatives. The results of the scoping process are presented in the June 2020 scoping report.

00:12:31.590 --> 00:12:40.590

USBR - Jason Sutter: The SWISP Alternatives Development Process incorporated information from scoping and resulted in a range of alternatives, ultimately, including three action alternatives.

00:12:41.010 --> 00:12:52.860

USBR - Jason Sutter: The results of that process are presented in the November 2020 Alternatives Compilation Report. Both reports are available on Reclamation's SWISP project website. Next.

00:12:56.310 --> 00:13:09.990

USBR - Jason Sutter: The primary resources and uses that may be impacted by the project include: fisheries and aquatic ecosystems, noise, water quality, transportation, and Tribal interests.

00:13:11.460 --> 00:13:11.820

Next,

00:13:15.210 --> 00:13:22.110

USBR - Jason Sutter: Four alternatives are analyzed in detail in the Draft EIS. NEPA requires an analysis of a No Action Alternative.

00:13:22.830 --> 00:13:30.930

USBR - Jason Sutter: Under Alternative A, the No Action Alternative, all intake features would remain in place and would not be modified, improved, or rehabilitated,

00:13:31.320 --> 00:13:35.700

USBR - Jason Sutter: And the existing water intake and delivery system would remain in its current degraded condition.

00:13:36.300 --> 00:13:49.620

USBR - Jason Sutter: The intake facility would not comply with fish screening and passages criteria; would not meet the 2017 biological opinion requirements; safety issues would persist; and reliability of the system would remain a concern.

00:13:50.640 --> 00:13:51.030

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:13:54.360 --> 00:14:04.320

USBR - Jason Sutter: Under Alternative B, Reclamation proposes to rehabilitate the Hatchery's intake and delivery system by constructing new intake headworks and a creek-width roughened channel,

00:14:04.680 --> 00:14:08.850

USBR - Jason Sutter: And replacing and lining the surface water conveyance pipeline to the Hatchery.

00:14:09.480 --> 00:14:17.340

USBR - Jason Sutter: In addition, the current intake access road would be modified and extended to provide better entry to an expanded intake operations and maintenance area.

00:14:18.060 --> 00:14:26.730

USBR - Jason Sutter: The conveyance pipeline would be replaced on Fish and Wildlife Service lands and lined with cure-in-place or CIPP liner on private parcels.

00:14:27.150 --> 00:14:35.580

USBR - Jason Sutter: Construction of several access points along the existing pipeline alignment would be installed to provide ingress and egress for pipe lining activities.

00:14:36.150 --> 00:14:47.580

USBR - Jason Sutter: Water supply to the Hatchery would be maintained during construction through either a gravity-fed bypass connected to the existing pipeline or through pumping from the spillway pool adjacent to the Hatchery.

00:14:48.210 --> 00:15:00.120

USBR - Jason Sutter: Staging sites would be located on Hatchery grounds. Trucks hauling construction equipment and containing construction materials would be required to turn around, approximately one mile above the intake construction area.

00:15:00.840 --> 00:15:04.710

USBR - Jason Sutter: Access to the pipeline would use existing roads and the pipeline right-of-way.

00:15:05.790 --> 00:15:16.020

USBR - Jason Sutter: Construction of the intake facility would take place up to 24 hours a day, seven days a week during a four and a half month in-water work window from July to mid-November.

00:15:16.620 --> 00:15:25.050

USBR - Jason Sutter: Under this construction schedule, the intake facilities are anticipated be completed in two in-water work seasons. Next.

00:15:27.750 --> 00:15:28.080

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:15:30.600 --> 00:15:37.620

USBR - Jason Sutter: Construction to the intake head works and rough and channel would incorporate the existing low head diversion down and intake channel.

00:15:37.950 --> 00:15:46.710

USBR - Jason Sutter: Self-cleaning, cylindrical fish screens would be installed at the diversion head works and a low-flow boulder weir fishway would be integrated into the roughened channel.

00:15:47.340 --> 00:15:51.990

USBR - Jason Sutter: A new pipeline would be placed in the intake channel to connect the headworks to the conveyance pipeline.

00:15:52.650 --> 00:16:05.520

USBR - Jason Sutter: The intake channel would be filled to cover the pipeline and create the intake operations and maintenance area. All action alternatives include construction of the intake facility features in this conceptual drawing.

00:16:07.800 --> 00:16:08.280

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:16:11.340 --> 00:16:27.330

USBR - Jason Sutter: Under Alternative C, intake facility features would be the same as Alternative B as just mentioned. However, under Alternative C, more of the conveyance pipeline to the Hatchery would be lined with cure-in-place lining and less pipeline would be replaced.

00:16:28.800 --> 00:16:29.190

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:16:34.440 --> 00:16:42.330

USBR - Jason Sutter: Under Alternative D, intake facility features and pipeline rehabilitation would be the same as Alternative B. However,

00:16:42.780 --> 00:16:54.720

USBR - Jason Sutter: Under Alternative D, construction of the intake facilities would be limited to 7am to 10pm up to six days a week during a four month in-water work window from July through October.

00:16:55.350 --> 00:17:02.340

USBR - Jason Sutter: Under this construction schedule, the intake facilities are anticipated to be completed in four in-water works seasons.

00:17:04.320 --> 00:17:04.500

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:17:07.800 --> 00:17:15.960

USBR - Jason Sutter: This table provides a summary of the key differences between the action alternatives. The primary differences involve the construction schedule,

00:17:16.440 --> 00:17:30.810

USBR - Jason Sutter: The time the intake facilities will be operational and compliant, the amount of pipeline replaced or CIPP lined, and the amount of temporary pumping necessary to keep the Hatchery in operation.

00:17:33.630 --> 00:17:41.370

USBR - Jason Sutter: After consideration of the impacts, Reclamation selected Alternative C as the preferred alternative. Next.

00:17:44.130 --> 00:18:01.050

USBR - Jason Sutter: Alternative C was selected as the preferred alternative because the construction schedule best meets the 2017 biological opinion requirements and impacts the riparian corridor least due to less excavation and disturbance needed for pipeline replacement.

00:18:06.360 --> 00:18:14.880

USBR - Jason Sutter: In the Draft EIS, Reclamation evaluated the impacts of the construction and operation of the SWISP project on the natural and human environment within the project area.

00:18:15.540 --> 00:18:22.440

USBR - Jason Sutter: The Draft EIS now available for review, and the public will be offered various opportunities to find out more about the SWISP project,

00:18:22.860 --> 00:18:40.710

USBR - Jason Sutter: And provide comments during the 45-day comment period. The public can visit the SWISP online virtual public meeting room 24 hours a day throughout the comment period and participate in several Question-and-Answer/public comment video teleconferences as you all are doing today.

00:18:42.300 --> 00:18:42.690

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:18:45.330 --> 00:18:54.420

USBR - Jason Sutter: The public can participate in the Draft EIS public comment process and provide input through the web-based virtual public meeting room until January 4th, 2021.

00:18:54.960 --> 00:19:06.060

USBR - Jason Sutter: The virtual meeting is accessible at the web address shown here. Comments can also be submitted via email and US Mail at the addresses provided on this slide.

00:19:06.810 --> 00:19:16.050

USBR - Jason Sutter: Comments must be submitted by close of business on January 4th, 2021. More information can be found on Reclamation SWISP project website.

00:19:17.880 --> 00:19:18.300

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:19:21.870 --> 00:19:28.110

USBR - Jason Sutter: The Draft EIS will be available for public review for a 45-day comment period ending January 4th, 2021

00:19:28.620 --> 00:19:38.940

USBR - Jason Sutter: Substantive comments will be analyzed, and changes will be made as necessary to the EIS. We anticipate that the Final EIS will be published in March 2021.

00:19:39.600 --> 00:19:49.920

USBR - Jason Sutter: After a 30-day waiting period, Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officials are expected to sign and publish the Record of Decision in April 2021.

00:19:51.270 --> 00:19:51.660

USBR - Jason Sutter: Next.

00:19:57.600 --> 00:20:10.140

USBR - Jason Sutter: This concludes our presentation. Thank you for listening. I'll now turn it over to Amanda so she can provide some information before we begin the Question-and-Answer session and public comment portion of our program.

00:20:16.170 --> 00:20:25.740

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason. Hello everyone. Again, my name is Amanda Biedermann, and I'm going to be your moderator for the Question-and-Answer session today,

00:20:26.160 --> 00:20:31.560

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: As well as the public comment portion of the meeting, which we will get to after this Q and A session.

00:20:32.430 --> 00:20:45.570

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: So we're now going to begin the Question-and-Answer portion of this meeting, and the intent of this Question-and-Answer session is to answer any process-related questions you have for Reclamation staff on the Draft EIS.

00:20:46.440 --> 00:20:58.770

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: The Bureau of Reclamation will not be accepting public comments during this Q and A portion of the meeting, but again we will be accepting public comments after we get done with the Q and A portion. So please stay tuned for that.

00:20:59.760 --> 00:21:08.940

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I will first go over instructions for how to submit a comment using the chat function if you are using the zoom web platform or zoom app.

00:21:09.630 --> 00:21:15.540

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: After we have gone through questions submitted via the zoom web platform or zoom app chat feature,

00:21:16.020 --> 00:21:23.640

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We will then move on to participants calling in over the phone today who would like to ask you a question. So please stay tuned for those instructions.

00:21:24.540 --> 00:21:34.800

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: So at this time, if you have a question and you are using the zoom web platform or zoom app, please go ahead and click on the chat icon at the bottom of your zoom screen.

00:21:35.340 --> 00:21:46.170

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And if you hover your mouse over the bottom of your zoom screen, that chat icon should have here. You may need to exit your full screen view in zoom, however, to see that chat icon.

00:21:47.190 --> 00:21:54.150

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: You can then type your question into the chat box, and please send it to the host of the meeting, Amy Lewis.

00:21:54.870 --> 00:22:02.430

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I will then read the question aloud for all participants to hear and a Reclamation staff member will respond to your question aloud.

00:22:03.210 --> 00:22:14.430

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We will try to answer your questions in the order that they are received. So, please note that there may be a bit of a pause between you asking your question and a Reclamation staff member answering your question.

00:22:15.150 --> 00:22:26.040

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And one last thing I do want to note for everyone on the meeting today, if you happened to email your questions before the meeting today, we do ask that you go ahead and resubmit those questions

00:22:26.460 --> 00:22:42.900

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Using the zoom chat feature if you're using the zoom web platform or zoom app today. And please just send those over to Amy Lewis. So at this time we'll give everyone a few minutes to get their questions in, and we'll just wait on the line to answer those.

00:22:55.200 --> 00:23:02.850

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Alright, and it looks like we have our first question already from participants and so question 1 from our participants is

00:23:03.540 --> 00:23:19.350

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: "Will all the construction take place within the boundaries of the maps in this presentation; that is, no work will take place further downstream?" And so I'm going to go ahead and unmute Jason, who will help us respond to this question.

00:23:22.350 --> 00:23:37.110

USBR - Jason Sutter: Right. Yeah. Thank you. Um, all the construction, well the majority of the construction will be taking place in sort of two places: the head works area, which we're calling the intake construction area, will be the

00:23:37.140 --> 00:23:39.300

USBR - Jason Sutter: Furthest

00:23:40.050 --> 00:23:42.810

USBR - Jason Sutter: Upstream where construction will take place.

00:23:43.920 --> 00:23:52.560

USBR - Jason Sutter: There will not be any other in-water work below that intake construction area. However, we will be

00:23:54.360 --> 00:24:02.550

USBR - Jason Sutter: Replacing and lining the conveyance pipeline from the intake structure, all the way to the Hatchery.

00:24:03.810 --> 00:24:12.990

USBR - Jason Sutter: Based on the different alternatives that we have, there's different amounts of pipeline that will be replaced versus areas that will be lined.

00:24:14.040 --> 00:24:29.730

USBR - Jason Sutter: At this point, the preferred alternative, Alternative C, has the lowest portion of the pipeline, which is near, on the Fish and Wildlife Service hatchery grounds, that portion of the pipeline will be replaced.

00:24:30.870 --> 00:24:40.470

USBR - Jason Sutter: The entire rest of the pipeline from that point, all the way to the intake construction area, would be lined with cure-in-place pipeline liner.

00:24:44.160 --> 00:24:46.740

USBR - Jason Sutter: So I hope that answered the question.

00:24:47.820 --> 00:24:58.860

USBR - Jason Sutter: Basically all construction will take place in or near the stream at the intake construction area. Otherwise it will be work on the pipeline, which will be in the uplands.

00:25:01.410 --> 00:25:05.460

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason, for that response and we'll move on to

00:25:05.490 --> 00:25:21.810

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Question 2 now. And so, question 2 is "Will the total amount of water taken from the icicle exceed the amount of

water typically extracted over the past 15 years, regardless of what water rights say is allowed?"

00:25:23.010 --> 00:25:26.220

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And I'll go ahead and unmute David Child, and he can help us

00:25:27.420 --> 00:25:29.730

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Get started with responding to this question.

00:25:35.730 --> 00:25:40.260

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And David, I've unmuted you from my end, but you may need to unmute yourself from your end.

00:25:42.060 --> 00:25:51.270

USBR - David Child: All right, thank you for that question. I'm going to give it my best shot at answering it. And then, Mat Maxey, Hatchery manager, is going to help me here.

00:25:52.350 --> 00:26:01.140

USBR - David Child: So the project has been designed to meet the full surface water right that the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery has, a 42 CFS.

00:26:02.250 --> 00:26:16.290

USBR - David Child: Two cylindrical fish screens, meeting that 42 CFS right. I think Mat can probably speak to more of the specifics of what the last 15 years have been like, but

00:26:17.670 --> 00:26:31.620

USBR - David Child: Based on my conversations with him, to produce 1.2 million spring chinook salmon smolts, to meet the obligations that the Hatchery does have, they do need that full 42 CFS water right, 42 CFS.

00:26:32.730 --> 00:26:34.290

USBR - David Child: So Matt, maybe jump in and.

00:26:36.420 --> 00:26:37.230

USFWS - Mat Maxey: Yeah, and,

00:26:40.770 --> 00:26:47.610

USFWS - Mat Maxey: And as far as the construction side of things, the specifically that they said, that this is to provide the full 42 CFS.

00:26:48.840 --> 00:27:02.640

USFWS - Mat Maxey: This doesn't affect our production. It's not that we're increasing or anything like that. So our water needs will remain the same. And we will not be drawing any more than what our 42 CFS water right is.

00:27:06.360 --> 00:27:08.280

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, David and Max.

00:27:08.340 --> 00:27:09.600

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I'll go ahead and put you

00:27:09.600 --> 00:27:16.770

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Both back on you now and we'll move on to our third question, and so question 3 is,

00:27:17.250 --> 00:27:33.630

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: "This project is listed on the FAST-41 permitting dashboard as a major infrastructure project. What was the basis for this decision, and why was it not mentioned in the Draft EIS?" And I'll go back to Jason to help us respond to this question.

00:27:35.880 --> 00:27:49.350

USBR - Jason Sutter: Sure. So basically this project is not a FAST-41 project. The project is tracked on the Federal permitting dashboard and listed as a major infrastructure project because

00:27:49.830 --> 00:28:00.420

USBR - Jason Sutter: The NOI for the EIS was issued after August 15th, 2017. The proposed action falls under a sector and project type under FAST-41 called a

00:28:01.020 --> 00:28:12.630

USBR - Jason Sutter: Resources project, and the proposed action requires authorization from multiple Federal agencies - the Bureau of Reclamation and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

00:28:13.110 --> 00:28:31.380

USBR - Jason Sutter: The project sponsor, the, I'm sorry, that the Bureau of Reclamation has identified the reasonable availability of funds sufficient to complete the project. So, therefore, this project falls under the Executive Order 13807 and is tracked on the Federal permitting dashboard.

00:28:32.730 --> 00:28:45.960

USBR - Jason Sutter: If you refer to section 1.4 'Decisions to be Made' in the DEIS, you'll note that the project is identified as an Executive Order 13807, one Federal decision project.

00:28:50.430 --> 00:28:52.920

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason for that response.

00:28:53.820 --> 00:28:55.950

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I'll go ahead and put you back on mute,

00:28:56.400 --> 00:29:04.260

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And we'll move on to our next question, which is actually a follow up to question to that was just asked previous, or earlier.

00:29:04.770 --> 00:29:20.610

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And so this follow up question is, "I understand that this will draw all rights, but don't you know what you have actually been drawing over the past 10 years or so?" And I'll go back to Mat Maxey who will help us respond to this question.

00:29:24.270 --> 00:29:27.480

USFWS - Mat Maxey: And I'm going to ask for a clarifying question and,

00:29:29.370 --> 00:29:34.560

USFWS - Mat Maxey: Just about what we have drawn in the past. Are you asking that we

00:29:35.610 --> 00:29:39.180

USFWS - Mat Maxey: Are counting for the COIC diversion that we also have

00:29:40.260 --> 00:29:43.470

USFWS - Mat Maxey: That diverts water out our same intake structure?

00:29:45.150 --> 00:29:58.260

USFWS - Mat Maxey: And I'm going to assume that that is the question, and the Hatchery itself only takes 42 and COIC has a diversion at the same location and has a bifurcation along the pipeline, and they take

00:29:59.280 --> 00:30:03.240

USFWS - Mat Maxey: An additional amount from that diversion. The Hatchery itself

00:30:04.710 --> 00:30:12.600

USFWS - Mat Maxey: Has just the 42 CFS plus our groundwater and we try to stick to those obviously,

00:30:14.820 --> 00:30:23.190

USFWS - Mat Maxey: Within the rights of the laws, of what our division is, and we maintain that 42 CFS surface water right.

00:30:27.720 --> 00:30:40.980

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thanks, Matt, for that response. And if that participant has any follow up that they want to clarify, again please go ahead and send all of your questions over to Amy Lewis. In the meantime,

00:30:41.730 --> 00:30:42.090

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We'll

00:30:42.120 --> 00:30:57.780

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Move on to our next question. And so question 4 is "When will we be able to see the maps of the work from this project through to the Hatcher? By 'lining,' does that mean the pipe does not have to be dug up?" And I'll go back again to Jason

00:30:57.780 --> 00:30:59.280

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: To help us answer this question.

00:31:01.710 --> 00:31:20.880

USBR - Jason Sutter: Yeah, that's a good question. Um, if you go to the Draft EIS, there is an appendix, with many maps that show the project features and their location. So that's what, where, I would refer you to go look for maps to begin with, as far as the question.

00:31:22.230 --> 00:31:31.440

USBR - Jason Sutter: Yeah, and we can, if we could possibly go back in the presentation to, I believe it's slide number, maybe five.

00:31:32.910 --> 00:31:36.210

USBR - Jason Sutter: And I could talk about a few things. I think it's a little farther.

00:31:37.620 --> 00:31:39.240

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Sorry, let me just quickly,

00:31:41.520 --> 00:31:43.980

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Okay, I'll go all the way back to slide 5.

00:31:47.040 --> 00:31:47.400

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Okay.

00:31:47.880 --> 00:31:48.330

USBR - Jason Sutter: There it is.

00:31:49.710 --> 00:31:55.800

USBR - Jason Sutter: On the screen, you'll see this is pretty much an overview of the whole project and where the features are located.

00:31:56.160 --> 00:32:07.560

USBR - Jason Sutter: If you'll notice down on the lower left-hand side of the of the map, you'll notice the magenta area -that's the intake construction area. There's a call out box, showing that.

00:32:08.280 --> 00:32:17.880

USBR - Jason Sutter: You'll notice that in that area is where the intake and the roughened channel will be built. At this scale, it's not good to show all those features. That's why there was another,

00:32:18.660 --> 00:32:28.050

USBR - Jason Sutter: That conceptual drawing that we saw earlier. And you'll notice from that intake construction area, there is a dashed blue line that makes its way,

00:32:28.410 --> 00:32:36.180

USBR - Jason Sutter: Follows the creek, a little bit, but then it goes off and then heads into the Hatchery, which you see towards the upper right-hand corner of the map.

00:32:37.710 --> 00:32:46.110

USBR - Jason Sutter: Along that area, you'll notice that these areas that are blocked off in yellow, or there's sort of a yellow buffer around the pipeline.

00:32:46.620 --> 00:32:53.850

USBR - Jason Sutter: Those are areas that we considered in the EIS depending on which action alternative for replacing the pipeline.

00:32:54.330 --> 00:33:02.370

USBR - Jason Sutter: So in Alternative B, the idea was to replace the pipeline and that does mean excavating and

00:33:02.730 --> 00:33:13.830

USBR - Jason Sutter: Either removing the pipeline or placing a new pipeline adjacent to it. So those were the two options we had in those yellow areas, depending on the alternative.

00:33:14.400 --> 00:33:27.120

USBR - Jason Sutter: Otherwise, the area that is not surrounded by yellow would be lined. So that means that there would be a, a type of technology called cure-in-place pipeline lining, where

00:33:28.530 --> 00:33:41.820

USBR - Jason Sutter: Basically a work crew would come in and access the pipeline at those other small magenta boxes that you see. And you can see the access routes to them along the blue pipeline. There's four of them.

00:33:43.170 --> 00:33:53.190

USBR - Jason Sutter: And what the construction folks do there is, at those locations, they're able to invert a pipeline into the existing pipeline.

00:33:53.490 --> 00:34:00.540

USBR - Jason Sutter: And if there are any problems with that pipeline, it covers those up. It basically creates a new pipe within the existing pipeline.

00:34:00.900 --> 00:34:09.540

USBR - Jason Sutter: And that would be, there's a distance that you can do that. So that requires these four different access areas that we're showing here.

00:34:10.050 --> 00:34:20.070

USBR - Jason Sutter: So to answer the last part of your question, when we're talking about replacing pipeline, we are talking about excavating and putting a new pipeline

00:34:20.460 --> 00:34:32.820

USBR - Jason Sutter: Either in the same place or adjacent to it. When we're talking about lining, we're talking about accessing it by those areas and then using that technology to put a liner inside the existing pipeline.

00:34:33.390 --> 00:34:44.670

USBR - Jason Sutter: A few other items to note here are the staging areas that you see in bright red. Those are several areas where equipment and construction materials will be staged.

00:34:45.180 --> 00:34:57.360

USBR - Jason Sutter: All of those occur on the hatchery grounds. And you'll also notice the orange circle and the orange line - that is where the temporary pump will be located.

00:34:58.020 --> 00:35:13.110

USBR - Jason Sutter: And the orange line is the pipeline from the pump to the Hatchery. And that is adjacent to the spillway pool, and that's where water would be pumped out and then directed into the hatchery so that they could continue their operation.

00:35:16.320 --> 00:35:23.160

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason for that response. And so I'll just quickly flip back over to our Q and A slide,

00:35:24.390 --> 00:35:26.310

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And then we'll move on to our next question.

00:35:42.420 --> 00:35:48.300

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Okay, we're now back to our Question-and-Answer slide again with instructions if you do have a question.

00:35:48.750 --> 00:35:57.390

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Right now, we're still just answering questions via that chat feature if you're using the zoom web platform or a zoom app.

00:35:58.140 --> 00:36:11.970

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And so we'll move on to question 5 now, and question 5 is "What type of coffer dam is being proposed in icicle Creek?" And I'm going to unmute Elizabeth Heether, who's going to help us respond to that question.

00:36:18.480 --> 00:36:31.980

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: So as far as what coffer dam is being proposed in icicle Creek, our specification is not dictating the means and methods that the contractor will use for constructing, how they will construct, the coffer dam.

00:36:33.960 --> 00:36:43.440

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: We have put in the specification that pile-driving with sheet metal will not be allowed on that is, that causes more environmental impacts.

00:36:43.830 --> 00:36:58.020

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: And so we have restricted the use of pile-driving as a form of coffer dam placement. The two means and methods that are likely to be used are super sacks, which are tie-back bags that are filled with

00:36:58.710 --> 00:37:07.980

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Wash sand and gravel to stack within the creek to form that coffer dam or the use of an inflatable coffer dam.

00:37:09.450 --> 00:37:18.990

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Reclamation has analyzed the use of super sacks, because that is the more impactful of the two remain, you know,

00:37:19.710 --> 00:37:32.460

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Between placement of a super sack coffer down or an inflatable coffer dam. There's more risk associated with the super sack coffer dam. So, that is what we analyzed in the EIS.

00:37:36.030 --> 00:37:40.560

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Elizabeth, for that response. I'll go ahead and put you back on mute now,

00:37:41.100 --> 00:37:56.520

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And we'll wait for our next question. I don't see any questions currently, but again, we'll give folks a few minutes here to continue to submit their questions, and then I'll briefly read through the instructions for anyone who might be calling in from today.

00:38:01.200 --> 00:38:14.220

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And again, I'll just read through the instructions verbally for everyone. Again, if you are using the zoom web platform or zoom app, please go ahead and click on that chat icon at the bottom of your zoom screen,

00:38:14.790 --> 00:38:25.380

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And please send your question over to Amy Lewis. I'll then ask your question aloud and a Reclamation staff member will respond to your question.

00:39:30.060 --> 00:39:40.080

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Alright, so we have our next question, and that is question 6. And so question six is "How will you consider comments from the public?"

00:39:41.190 --> 00:39:43.740

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And I'll go ahead and unmute Jason again.

00:39:46.860 --> 00:39:57.030

USBR - Jason Sutter: So Reclamation is committed to collecting comments from the public and interested parties. Comments received during the public scoping, I'm sorry, for the public comment period.

00:39:58.350 --> 00:40:08.070

USBR - Jason Sutter: Comments received during the public scoping period were summarized in a scoping report, as I mentioned before, and they were made available to the public. Before the Draft EIS was released, the

00:40:08.610 --> 00:40:18.240

USBR - Jason Sutter: Reclamation team reviewed and considered every comment submitted and addressed them as appropriate for the Draft EIS. Reclamation will consider and evaluate all comments received.

00:40:18.930 --> 00:40:25.350

USBR - Jason Sutter: Substantive comments received will be addressed in the Final EIS, which is planned to be completed in 2021.

00:40:25.920 --> 00:40:45.780

USBR - Jason Sutter: The comment submittals will be available for public review and may be published as part of the Final SWISP Project EIS. And you can provide your comments in many different ways, like we have discussed, and we'll provide some more opportunities later in the program. Thanks.

00:40:46.860 --> 00:41:00.120

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason, and I'll go ahead and keep you unmuted for our next question, which is question seven. And that question is "Are hard copies of the EIS available? and where can I see the EIS?"

00:41:03.240 --> 00:41:13.140

USBR - Jason Sutter: Well the Federal government has instituted programs to minimize printing materials and waste.

00:41:14.550 --> 00:41:26.940

USBR - Jason Sutter: And so basically, we have moved into that realm, and we have the ability, obviously, to print the Draft EIS; however, we don't have

00:41:27.450 --> 00:41:28.290

USBR - Jason Sutter: Them available.

00:41:28.560 --> 00:41:36.720

USBR - Jason Sutter: If you would like a printed copy or you have an idea of where you think we should make one available,

00:41:38.040 --> 00:41:49.140

USBR - Jason Sutter: We would really appreciate you sending us an email with that information and we will do what we can to provide them for your review.

00:41:54.510 --> 00:41:56.760

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason for that response.

00:41:56.850 --> 00:41:57.630

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I'll go ahead

00:41:57.660 --> 00:42:10.650

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And mute you again, and we'll move on to question 8. I do just want to actually quickly go to the phone instructions. I don't see anyone calling in through the phone, but if you're having issues with your computer microphone.

00:42:11.130 --> 00:42:18.510

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And you need to call in through the phone for any reason, I'll just briefly go over the instructions before we move on to our next question

00:42:18.870 --> 00:42:29.520

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: submitted via the chat feature. So if you're calling him through the phone today and if you have a question, please press star nine on your keypad to raise your hand

00:42:30.180 --> 00:42:38.100

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: To let staff know that you have a question. We'll then unmute you so that you can ask your question verbally and

00:42:39.090 --> 00:42:46.980

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I'll then put you back on mute. And again, a Reclamation staff member will then respond to your question aloud. You may be muted on your end.

00:42:47.310 --> 00:42:58.140

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: If that is the case, we will prompt you to unmute yourself by pressing star six. So again, if you have a question and are calling it over the phone, please press star nine on your keypad.

00:42:58.890 --> 00:43:04.890

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: But at this time, again, I don't see anyone calling in over the phone, so, we will move on to question.

00:43:05.730 --> 00:43:21.360

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And so question 8 is "Does the EIS cover things such as draft construction schedules, construction scenarios for truck traffic noise, etc.?" And I'm going to go ahead and unmute Elizabeth again to respond to this question.

00:43:25.830 --> 00:43:34.980

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Yes, the EIS does cover draft construction schedules and construction scenarios for traffic, truck traffic, and noise.

00:43:36.090 --> 00:43:44.730

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: If you want to dig deeper into those resources, that can also be found in the resource reports that are posted on the Reclamation EIS website.

00:43:48.330 --> 00:43:56.160

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Elizabeth, for that response. I'll go ahead and put you back on mute, as we wait for any additional questions we have today.

00:44:14.010 --> 00:44:18.690

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And again, I do just want to clarify to everyone, as we wait for any questions

00:44:19.470 --> 00:44:30.540

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: To come in that this is the Question-and-Answer portion of the meeting today. Once we have gone through as many questions as we can, or we're not getting any more questions from participants,

00:44:30.930 --> 00:44:45.330

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We'll then go ahead and move on to the public comment portion of the meeting today, where we will accept verbal public comments from participants who are on the line. So please stay tuned for that portion of the meeting if you do want to offer a comment today.

00:45:00.210 --> 00:45:15.180

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: All right, we'll continue to wait for questions. We did get a partial question from a participant and so that participant asked if we could just go back to the slide with the links to the documents at the Reclamation website. So again, as we wait

00:45:16.260 --> 00:45:24.450

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: For any more questions. I believe it's this, yeah, this slide. So I'll go back to the slide, if anybody needs to copy that web address down.

00:46:01.110 --> 00:46:15.930

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Okay, great. I'll switch back over then to our Question-and-Answer slide, and so question 10 is "Who are the cooperating agencies?" And again I'll unmute Elizabeth to respond to that question.

00:46:21.420 --> 00:46:33.900

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Our cooperating agencies are the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Army Corps of Engineers. Those are the only two agencies that accepted our request for

00:46:34.860 --> 00:46:44.820

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Participation as a cooperating agencies. But as we noted in the slide presentation, we have a lot of participating agencies and interested parties that we've been working with.

00:46:45.450 --> 00:46:54.120

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: So we've worked closely, as participant agencies, we've worked closely with Chelan County, the Colville Tribes Fish and Wildlife Department, NOAA Fisheries,

00:46:54.450 --> 00:47:04.830

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Washington Department of Ecology, the

Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Yakama Nations Fisheries.

00:47:05.430 --> 00:47:11.970

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: So while we only have two official cooperating agencies, we have worked with a lot of other agencies as well.

00:47:15.660 --> 00:47:17.760

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Elizabeth, for that response.

00:47:18.720 --> 00:47:24.300

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We'll continue to wait for a few more minutes to see if anyone else has any additional questions today.

00:48:12.360 --> 00:48:20.220

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Alright, I don't see any additional questions coming in through the chat feature, and I don't see any raised hands from any phone callers today.

00:48:20.880 --> 00:48:32.280

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: So at this time we're going to go ahead and close the Q and A portion of the meeting and officially start the public comment portion of the meeting to receive comments related to the Draft EIS.

00:48:32.880 --> 00:48:47.430

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: It's about 5:19pm Pacific time. So I'm going to move on to our public comments slide. Again this public comment portion of the meeting, along with your comments, is being recorded as part of the official record.

00:48:48.420 --> 00:48:59.040

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: As a reminder, your camera and mic control settings are restricted during this time, so you will only be able to talk if and when you are unmuted. So please remember to speak when prompted.

00:49:00.600 --> 00:49:05.700

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I will now walk you through the order in which we will accept public comments from participants today.

00:49:06.330 --> 00:49:14.610

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: First, as you can see on the screen, we will call on participants who requested to offer a comment when they pre-registered using the registration link.

00:49:15.510 --> 00:49:26.070

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: After allowing these participants to offer their comments, we will then open up the public comment portion of the meeting to anyone who would like to offer a comment who is on the meeting today.

00:49:26.820 --> 00:49:41.490

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Again, we will first go through those participants who request to comment using the zoom web platform or zoom app. And then if we do have any participants calling in over the phone today, we'll go over to those callers if they would like to offer a comment.

00:49:45.600 --> 00:49:52.260

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I'm now going to read through the instructions for those participants who indicated they wanted to offer a comment when they pre-registered.

00:49:52.830 --> 00:50:02.640

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And we have a list of these participants. I did cut it off right at about when the meeting started, but I do believe that I caught our one participant who said they wanted to offer a comment.

00:50:03.030 --> 00:50:10.830

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: But I do apologize if you are left off my list. But again, you'll have an opportunity to offer a comment when we open it up to everyone on the meeting.

00:50:12.180 --> 00:50:19.170

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: So if you are on this list, when it is your turn to comment, we will read your name aloud from this list and display your name on the next screen.

00:50:19.920 --> 00:50:34.380

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And then we will also display the name of the commenter who is next in line to comment, and we'll get to that later. So when you hear your name called out, please use the raise hand feature so that we know you are available and ready to offer your comment.

00:50:35.550 --> 00:50:44.910

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: You can access the raise hand feature by going to the participants list and then selecting the raise hand feature at the bottom of your participants list.

00:50:45.600 --> 00:50:54.360

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And you can access your participants list at the bottom of your zoom screen. Again, if you wave your mouse back and forth across the bottom of your zoom screen,

00:50:54.870 --> 00:51:04.470

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: The participants list icon should appear. And again, you may need to exit out of your full screen zoom view in order to see the participants list icon.

00:51:05.100 --> 00:51:14.130

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Or if you're calling in through the phone today, please press star nine again to access the raise hand feature so that we know you're ready to offer your comment.

00:51:15.450 --> 00:51:20.010

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Once you have raised your hand, you will then be unmuted so that you can provide your comment.

00:51:20.700 --> 00:51:32.880

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: You may be double muted. If that is the case, we will just prompt you to unmute yourself on your end, so that we can hear you. please spell out your first and last name for the record before providing your comment today.

00:51:34.050 --> 00:51:44.070

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: As I mentioned at the beginning of today's meeting that your comments may be time limited. We ask that you keep your comment generally limited to about five minutes.

00:51:44.790 --> 00:51:50.400

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: You will receive a 30-second verbal warning to kind of let you know how much time you have left to comment.

00:51:50.850 --> 00:51:58.410

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Again, we ask that you be mindful and respectful of this time limit in order to allow others the opportunity to offer their comment as well.

00:51:59.340 --> 00:52:13.260

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: After you have provided your comment, we will mute you and then move on to our next commenter. And again, once we have gone through everyone who is on our pre-registered list of commenters, we will open the meeting to anyone would like to offer a comment today.

00:52:14.310 --> 00:52:19.260

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Lastly, if you do not feel that you were able to complete your comment within the allotted time frame,

00:52:19.890 --> 00:52:32.310

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: The Bureau of Reclamation strongly encourages you to submit remainder of your comment in writing. I'm now going to turn it over to Amy Lewis, who is going to be our moderator for the public comment portion of the meeting.

00:52:41.820 --> 00:52:57.540

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Okay. Good evening, everyone. And welcome to the public comment portion of our meeting. As Amanda said, we ask that you generally keep your comments to five minutes. I will be

00:52:58.830 --> 00:53:01.560

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Keeping track loosely here and

00:53:02.910 --> 00:53:08.100

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: When it's getting close, towards the end of your time, I will come in and give you a 30-second warning.

00:53:09.180 --> 00:53:24.090

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Other than that, please, as Amanda said, again just be respectful to the other participants that might want to provide a comment. So our first commenter on the list is Mark Jen.

00:53:25.230 --> 00:53:29.490

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Mark, if you could go ahead and raise your hand

00:53:30.540 --> 00:53:34.110

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: By accessing that feature in your participant list

00:53:35.850 --> 00:53:39.420

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Just to let us know that you are ready to offer your comment.

00:53:45.180 --> 00:53:51.660

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: I also see you on here. So I'm just going to ask to unmute you. And you might be.

00:53:52.710 --> 00:53:53.490

Mark Jen: Okay with me.

00:53:53.790 --> 00:53:55.590

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: I, there you are. Hi, Mark, how are you?

00:53:56.250 --> 00:54:04.890

Mark Jen: I was not planning to provide verbal comments but EPA will be providing written comments by the end of the comment period.

00:54:05.370 --> 00:54:06.000

Mark Jen: Excellent.

00:54:06.630 --> 00:54:09.930

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: All right. Thank you very much. I'm going to put you back on mute.

00:54:12.030 --> 00:54:19.350

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Okay, I think, then, if there is nobody else, I think Mark, you were the only person on our

00:54:20.400 --> 00:54:21.900

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Preregistered list.

00:54:23.100 --> 00:54:32.070

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: At this time, we can go ahead and open it up to anyone on the meeting today that would like to provide a comment.

00:54:33.660 --> 00:54:49.170

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: And if you would like to comment, please access that raise hand feature. Again, you can find that in your participant list if you hover your cursor over the bottom of your zoom screen, click on the participant list and then you should have a raise hand feature there.

00:54:50.220 --> 00:54:55.170

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: If you'd like to provide a comment, just go ahead and let us know by raising your hand.

00:54:56.730 --> 00:55:02.370

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: And we will pause here for a few minutes to see if anyone would like to come on comment.

00:55:36.150 --> 00:55:38.640

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Okay, again, if you are

00:55:40.350 --> 00:55:51.420

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Wanting to provide a comment and now is the time to do that. You can access the raise hand feature to let us know you'd like to provide some comments by

00:55:52.380 --> 00:56:00.240

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: hovering your cursor over the participant list at the bottom of your zoom screen and then you should see the raise hand feature at the bottom of your participant list.

00:57:03.210 --> 00:57:11.730

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Okay, since we are not seeing any raised hands for people that might want to provide comment, we're going to

00:57:13.170 --> 00:57:23.910

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Open it up again to question and answers in case people had additional questions that they thought of in the last few minutes that they would like to ask.

00:57:24.390 --> 00:57:42.330

EMPSi - Amy Lewis: Please see the instructions on the screen here and use the chat icon at the bottom of your zoom screen to send those questions to me, Amy Lewis, as the host of the meeting. And we'll pause here to see if anyone has any additional questions.

00:58:32.460 --> 00:58:34.110

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Hi everyone, this is Amanda.

00:58:34.890 --> 00:58:54.840

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Again, I'll continue to wait and see if we have any additional questions, and it looks like we do have question number 11. And so question 11 is "I think you showed the schedule for subsequent public comment opportunities, could you show it again?" And I'll go back in our slide deck here.

00:58:56.070 --> 00:59:03.930

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And I believe, let's see either, maybe this slide. I'll unmute, Jason, if you'd like to walk us through any of this.

00:59:07.740 --> 00:59:12.210

USBR - Jason Sutter: Okay, sure. Um, so with the publication of the notice and

00:59:13.470 --> 00:59:25.170

USBR - Jason Sutter: Availability of the Draft EIS that happened on November 20th, and so that started a 45-day public comment period, which you can see here by that, indicated by that white

00:59:25.830 --> 00:59:34.290

USBR - Jason Sutter: Bar. And then on that very same day, we opened up the virtual public meeting room. I highly encourage everyone to go visit that.

00:59:35.070 --> 00:59:44.610

USBR - Jason Sutter: There's a lot of information that you've heard here today and additional detailed information. There's a bunch of links to all of our documents as well as

00:59:45.150 --> 00:59:54.150

USBR - Jason Sutter: The resource reports and some of the other foundational information, including the biological opinion and other efforts that have been conducted

00:59:54.750 --> 01:00:13.410

USBR - Jason Sutter: To work on this project. We also will have be conducting another one of these video teleconference on Thursday. We will be offering that one a little earlier in the day to give people an opportunity to attend at that time. And

01:00:14.580 --> 01:00:38.790

USBR - Jason Sutter: All of this, then all the, this will continue until January 4th, 2021. At that time, the comment period will end. We will be taking all of everyone's comments and we will be analyzing them and providing responses to those comments that are substantive and those comments that merit

01:00:40.470 --> 01:00:55.020

USBR - Jason Sutter: Work or further analysis in the EIS, or clarification, hopefully will be addressed and that information will be included in the Final EIS before we

01:00:56.790 --> 01:00:57.480

USBR - Jason Sutter: Release that.

01:01:01.260 --> 01:01:07.170

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason, for walking us through that. I'll flip back over to our Q and A slide quickly.

01:01:08.640 --> 01:01:20.040

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And we'll move on to our next question, question number 12, which is "How will Reclamation engage Native American Tribes?" And I'll go ahead and unmute Elizabeth for this response.

01:01:24.090 --> 01:01:34.860

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Thank you, Amanda. Um so Reclamation has actively engaged the Colville Tribes Fish and Wildlife Department and the Yakama Nation Fisheries.

01:01:35.160 --> 01:01:47.580

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Throughout the design process. They have participated in our bi-weekly design meetings and both tribes also participated in our public scoping process. And then

01:01:48.300 --> 01:01:58.380

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: We had consultation under Section 106, where they were provided opportunity to comment on our Section 106 consultation.

01:01:58.860 --> 01:02:05.490

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: And then we've also extended an invite to them to participate as a cooperating agency.

01:02:05.970 --> 01:02:13.770

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: And while they did not accept that opportunity to participate as a cooperating agency, we have done outreach to them and have

01:02:14.370 --> 01:02:31.950

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: held a meeting with their natural resource departments to give them an overview of the project and to again ask them if they wanted to participate at the cooperating agency level and at this point in time, we have not received

01:02:33.210 --> 01:02:36.840

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: confirmation that that that they want to participate at that level.

01:02:41.370 --> 01:02:44.220

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: All right, great. Thank you, Elizabeth, for that response.

01:02:45.510 --> 01:02:47.430

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We'll go ahead and move on

01:02:47.430 --> 01:02:56.310

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: To our next question, which is question 13 and that is "What are the benefits of the proposed Federal action?"

01:02:57.480 --> 01:03:03.750

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And I'll go ahead and unmute David Child to get us started, and then I can unmute anyone else to chime in.

01:03:07.380 --> 01:03:12.540

USBR - David Child: A great question, thank you. So let me share some benefits of the proposed Federal

01:03:12.540 --> 01:03:20.910

USBR - David Child: Action. So rehabilitating, replacing, and modernizing the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery surface water intake and delivery system

01:03:21.930 --> 01:03:31.770

USBR - David Child: Would increase access to additional habitat for ESA-listed fish in Icicle Creek by improving upstream and downstream passage at the surface water intake facility.

01:03:33.090 --> 01:03:39.840

USBR - David Child: The SWISP project would protect ESA-listed fish from being entrained or impinged at the surface water intake facility.

01:03:40.920 --> 01:03:48.000

USBR - David Child: It also would ensure safe and efficient and reliable delivery of the Hatchery's full surface water rights from Icicle Creek.

01:03:49.140 --> 01:03:52.440

USBR - David Child: And allow the Hatchery to continue to raise and release spring chinook salmon.

01:03:53.730 --> 01:04:03.690

USBR - David Child: The continued success of the Hatchery program provides for Tribal sport and commercial fisheries in Icicle Creek, the Columbia River, and the Pacific Ocean.

01:04:05.100 --> 01:04:06.540

USBR - David Child: Thank you. A great question.

01:04:10.350 --> 01:04:12.150

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Thank you, David, for responding to

01:04:12.150 --> 01:04:12.570

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: That.

01:04:13.980 --> 01:04:15.660

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We'll go ahead and continue to wait

01:04:16.170 --> 01:04:21.750

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: For any more questions. And again, we have flipped back to the Q and A portion.

01:04:22.500 --> 01:04:30.690

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: If you would like to offer a public comment, again, please go ahead and either access that raise hand feature at the bottom of your zoom screen,

01:04:31.050 --> 01:04:35.670

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Or you can press star nine on your phone keypad to raise your hand.

01:04:36.180 --> 01:04:49.740

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: To let staff know that you would like to offer a comment as well as you can see on the screen. If you are using your phone and you have a question, you can also press star nine to raise your hand to let staff know that you have a question.

01:04:50.910 --> 01:04:54.120

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We will continue to wait on the line here for a few minutes.

01:05:31.740 --> 01:05:45.540

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Alright, so we have our next question, question 14. And that question is, "What is the difference between Alternative B and Alternative D?" And I'll go ahead and go back to Jason and unmute him.

01:05:47.640 --> 01:05:49.290

USBR - Jason Sutter: Yeah, that's it. That's a good question.

01:05:50.310 --> 01:06:04.950

USBR - Jason Sutter: There, as I said during the presentation, the three action alternatives that we have, Alternative B, C and D, all anticipate construction of the intake facilities, the same.

01:06:06.090 --> 01:06:06.990

USBR - Jason Sutter: In the sense of

01:06:07.200 --> 01:06:09.000

USBR - Jason Sutter: The same features will be built,

01:06:09.660 --> 01:06:19.920

USBR - Jason Sutter: Those will all be the same. The main difference between Alternative B and Alternative D is the construction schedule.

01:06:20.730 --> 01:06:30.090

USBR - Jason Sutter: Under Alternative B, we are proposing a 24-hour up to seven days a week construction schedule

01:06:30.660 --> 01:06:41.490

USBR - Jason Sutter: Over a four and a half month in-water work season, so that in-water work season would start in July, and it would end in mid-November.

01:06:42.180 --> 01:06:54.720

USBR - Jason Sutter: Working 24 hours a day with that length of in-water work season, the project, the intake facilities could be constructed in two of the in-water work seasons.

01:06:55.290 --> 01:07:06.840

USBR - Jason Sutter: Now for Alternative D, the anticipated work schedule would be from 7am to 10pm up to six days a week for a four month

01:07:07.800 --> 01:07:25.800

USBR - Jason Sutter: In-water work season from July through October. If under that construction scenario, it would take four in-water work seasons. That's four years, basically, to finish it. And so to best meet

01:07:27.090 --> 01:07:41.820

USBR - Jason Sutter: The 2017 biological opinion to have a fish screens and fish passage in place by May of 2023, having a 24 hour

01:07:42.990 --> 01:08:01.200

USBR - Jason Sutter: Long schedule as well as a longer in-water work season will allow that to take place in just two years and therefore basically be very close to meeting that May 2023. In fact, the fish screens would be operational

01:08:02.280 --> 01:08:15.900

USBR - Jason Sutter: Before May 2023, and the roughened channel would be completed in, by, around November of 2023, and at that point the whole intake facility would be compliant.

01:08:22.920 --> 01:08:25.080

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason, for that response.

01:08:26.220 --> 01:08:35.010

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We'll go ahead and flip back over again to our Question-and-Answer instruction slide as we continue to take questions from participants.

01:08:47.580 --> 01:08:52.590

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And it looks like we actually have some follow up from Jason, so I'll go ahead and unmute you Jason.

01:08:52.950 --> 01:08:55.110

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We can flip back over to that slide again.

01:08:56.910 --> 01:09:08.580

USBR - Jason Sutter: Okay. Yeah, thank you. One thing I also want to make clear when we're talking about this construction schedule, that only pertains to construction at the intake construction site.

01:09:09.690 --> 01:09:20.850

USBR - Jason Sutter: Regardless of alternative the pipeline work will not be 24 hours. The pipeline work would occur from seven to 10pm, 7am to 10pm, and up to six

01:09:22.530 --> 01:09:42.480

USBR - Jason Sutter: Days a week. Obviously that work, it would be limited somewhat by the ability or really the needs of the Hatchery to be able to have their full water right. There are particular times, a short window, where the hatchery can operate

01:09:43.920 --> 01:10:00.540

USBR - Jason Sutter: Successfully with less water. During that time is when we would be planning to pump water from the spillway pool to

provide the Hatchery's needs and that way the work on the pipeline could take place because we need to dewater the pipeline to be able to

01:10:01.830 --> 01:10:16.980

USBR - Jason Sutter: Line it and do some of the, the, well actually, the replacement work would be, could be done. Well, there's water in the pipeline, because at this point the replacement work that is anticipated would be a, be laying a

01:10:17.490 --> 01:10:25.200

USBR - Jason Sutter: A pipeline parallel to where the section would be, that would be replaced. So I just wanted to make sure that

01:10:25.680 --> 01:10:37.230

USBR - Jason Sutter: Everyone knew that, that work would not be 24 hours and really is not tied to an in-water season so there is, there's the ability to replace it.

01:10:37.890 --> 01:10:50.700

USBR - Jason Sutter: Throughout the year, and that's been, and then, we would be limited to a short time and in between April and May to do the lining work for those portions that is proposed.

01:10:56.010 --> 01:11:03.330

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason, for that follow up, and I'll go ahead and unmute Elizabeth as well who has some additional follow up to that.

01:11:10.200 --> 01:11:16.710

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Let's see. Elizabeth, I unmuted you on my end. You might need to unmute yourself on your end, I'll try again.

01:11:18.690 --> 01:11:19.200

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: There we go.

01:11:19.770 --> 01:11:23.730

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: Thank you for that. I was trying to unmute and despite multiple attempts, it didn't work.

01:11:24.150 --> 01:11:44.610

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: No, yeah, I just wanted to add for clarification that the phase 2 work for the lining project that each spillway is expected to only take that one-month time period, and that the work schedule would be that 7am to 10pm. So it's a very small amount of time.

01:11:46.020 --> 01:11:56.100

USBR - Elizabeth Heether: For those spillways to be done and it's possible that more than one of those spillways could be done, utilized during the same one-month time period.

01:11:59.610 --> 01:12:07.290

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Heather, sorry, Elizabeth for that clarification, and we'll go back to our Question-and-Answer slide.

01:12:09.450 --> 01:12:13.530

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And we'll continue to take questions and comments as well.

01:13:10.230 --> 01:13:23.580

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We'll continue to wait for more questions coming in via either the zoom chat feature or if you're using the phone and we'll go until 6:00pm pacific time, where

01:13:24.210 --> 01:13:34.200

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: We'll then go to our final slide that just has some closing remarks that Jason will lead us through. But for now, we'll just continue to go through any questions or comments that we get.

01:13:35.070 --> 01:13:44.130

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And so question 15 that we've received is "How will the preferred alternative minimize detrimental effects on the human environment?"

01:13:45.390 --> 01:13:49.200

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: And I'll go ahead and unmute Jason to get us started with that response.

01:13:52.080 --> 01:14:00.180

USBR - Jason Sutter: Okay, well, NEPA requires the Federal agencies to evaluate the potential effects of their activities on the quality of the human environment,

01:14:00.570 --> 01:14:06.030

USBR - Jason Sutter: Including natural resources, cultural resources, and social and economic considerations.

01:14:06.630 --> 01:14:20.460

USBR - Jason Sutter: The preferred alternative minimizes detrimental effects by minimizing the amount of ground disturbance and vegetation removal in the Icicle Creek riparian zone, as well as the duration of construction activities in Icicle Creek.

01:14:21.540 --> 01:14:29.880

USBR - Jason Sutter: Further, Reclamation would implement best management practices to protect water quality and other resources, including, but not limited to,

01:14:30.210 --> 01:14:40.500

USBR - Jason Sutter: Fisheries and aquatic resources, Tribal interests, public health and safety, and recreation during project construction and operation and maintenance.

01:14:41.160 --> 01:14:51.720

USBR - Jason Sutter: Reclamation must also obtain all required Federal and state regulatory permit approvals before construction begins and comply with all conditions of approval contained therein.

01:14:52.470 --> 01:15:02.160

USBR - Jason Sutter: Reclamation would also comply with all required measures and stipulations determined in consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act,

01:15:02.610 --> 01:15:17.370

USBR - Jason Sutter: And the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and Yakama Nation and Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation Tribal historic preservation officers under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

01:15:23.400 --> 01:15:25.560

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason, for that response.

01:15:27.030 --> 01:15:41.850

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: I'll go ahead and move on to question 16. I'll go ahead and keep you unmuted Jason, and then we can unmute whoever else, but question 16 is "Will the project affect access to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area?"

01:15:44.340 --> 01:15:57.300

USBR - Jason Sutter: That's, that's a great question. Um, because there's going to be a need to have trucks and other vehicles provide, bringing equipment as well as materials

01:15:57.690 --> 01:16:11.280

USBR - Jason Sutter: To the intake construction site and considering the constraints of the narrow Valley and, you know, located on with steep slopes adjacent to the road,

01:16:11.970 --> 01:16:27.150

USBR - Jason Sutter: There's going to be a need to have some traffic control to allow that to happen safely. So at this point we are the, the plan is to have the very large trucks

01:16:27.780 --> 01:16:43.020

USBR - Jason Sutter: That would be delivering materials back into the intake construction site. For them to do that safely, they'll need to pass the intake construction site and go actually past the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area trailhead

01:16:44.250 --> 01:16:52.800

USBR - Jason Sutter: Just a little bit farther. There's a wide area in the road where there is a Forest Service kiosk, as well as an Alpine Lakes kiosk. And at that point,

01:16:53.400 --> 01:17:07.020

USBR - Jason Sutter: There will also be people to stop traffic and ensure safety of everyone and allow the trucks to make a U-turn and head back down Icicle Creek road to the intake area.

01:17:07.320 --> 01:17:12.330

USBR - Jason Sutter: During that time, there will be a need to stop traffic so that they can do that safely.

01:17:13.140 --> 01:17:24.660

USBR - Jason Sutter: As many of you may know, there is limited parking in this Snow Lakes trailhead parking lot. None of that parking would be affected by that project. However, some of the overflow

01:17:25.560 --> 01:17:36.720

USBR - Jason Sutter: Parking that occurs along the shoulders of Icicle Creek Road, especially right there at the kiosk, would be marked with cones to

01:17:37.560 --> 01:17:47.850

USBR - Jason Sutter: Basically not allow parking in those areas, so that large trucks could make the U-turn there. At the intake construction area, area itself,

01:17:48.480 --> 01:17:58.380

USBR - Jason Sutter: There might be a need for certain vehicles to use more of Icicle Creek road to back into the construction site.

01:17:59.040 --> 01:18:05.160

USBR - Jason Sutter: It would be a person, a flagger, at that point as well, and they would be temporarily stopping traffic

01:18:05.970 --> 01:18:14.580

USBR - Jason Sutter: There. That could happen at a couple other intersections up Icicle Creek road as the construction vehicles are leaving the staging areas.

01:18:15.330 --> 01:18:32.460

USBR - Jason Sutter: And also if there are really big loads crossing the Icicle road bridge over the Wenatchee, there may be a need for a flagger to temporarily halt traffic so that a large truck with its load could get across that safely.

01:18:33.780 --> 01:18:45.420

USBR - Jason Sutter: So the main impact to recreation users, recreation access, that would be using or accessing the Alpine Lakes Wilderness would be that there would be some slight traffic delays and

01:18:45.810 --> 01:18:56.010

USBR - Jason Sutter: They would have to wait, and then obviously that, over there, would be a little less overflow parking for folks that would need that there, but those would be the main impacts

01:18:57.060 --> 01:18:59.700

USBR - Jason Sutter: Due to the project on recreation.

01:19:04.590 --> 01:19:11.460

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason, for your response to that question. And at this time, I'm not seeing any additional

01:19:11.460 --> 01:19:21.930

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Questions. So we'll go ahead and move on to that closing remarks slides that I mentioned earlier, and Jason, I'll just keep you unmuted if you want to walk us through this slide.

01:19:24.150 --> 01:19:36.210

USBR - Jason Sutter: Sure. First, thank everyone who has attended. We thank you for your time and your attention today. We will be posting today's presentation on the SWISP project website.

01:19:36.720 --> 01:19:46.890

USBR - Jason Sutter: And you'll also be able to find updates on our project on that same website moving forward. If you look at the slide, you'll notice that we have several

01:19:47.370 --> 01:19:54.180

USBR - Jason Sutter: Addresses there. The first to the very top one actually is the Bureau of Reclamation project website.

01:19:54.660 --> 01:20:10.950

USBR - Jason Sutter: And if you go to that site, there are various other pages at this site you can find out information on the project. You can also find the Draft EIS to download or review. There are also links to the resource reports as well as

01:20:12.150 --> 01:20:21.030

USBR - Jason Sutter: The biological opinions for that that we've discussed on this project. We also have links to various websites

01:20:22.350 --> 01:20:28.380

USBR - Jason Sutter: So you can learn more about the Leavenworth Fisheries Complex as well as the Leavenworth Fish Hatchery.

01:20:29.550 --> 01:20:42.300

USBR - Jason Sutter: I also encourage you to go visit our virtual meeting room. This is a website that is available 24 hours a day. It will be available through January 4th and once again, this website

01:20:42.990 --> 01:20:53.850

USBR - Jason Sutter: Is full of information. It's full of links to all of our documents, the ones that I just described there. So we have other ways to access all of these documents.

01:20:54.720 --> 01:21:03.510

USBR - Jason Sutter: There are photographs, there are figures, you can download any one of the, all of that material, from that website.

01:21:04.290 --> 01:21:16.860

USBR - Jason Sutter: Another great thing about the virtual meeting room is you also have the ability to submit your comment on the project and your comments that you may have on the Draft EIS.

01:21:17.550 --> 01:21:25.650

USBR - Jason Sutter: We also have a page where there are some frequently asked questions and the ability for you to ask additional questions

01:21:26.250 --> 01:21:36.540

USBR - Jason Sutter: If you want to clarify something that you don't understand, or would like to know more about. So I highly encourage everyone to visit our virtual meeting room for that

01:21:37.080 --> 01:21:48.300

USBR - Jason Sutter: For the resources that are there, as well as being able to submit your comment. And then of course there's various ways that you can submit your comments.

01:21:49.080 --> 01:21:55.110

USBR - Jason Sutter: You can submit your comments by email, and I have the email address here on the on the screen.

01:21:55.560 --> 01:22:07.380

USBR - Jason Sutter: If you do submit your comments via email, please in the subject line, please put it is public comments, so we know where to direct that email. And also, I,

01:22:08.130 --> 01:22:23.520

USBR - Jason Sutter: I would, if you would like to send your comments via US mail, please visit either our project website or the virtual meeting room or this presentation on one of the slides we had previously for

01:22:24.120 --> 01:22:33.240

USBR - Jason Sutter: The address to the Columbia-Pacific Northwest Regional Office, and I would only ask that you direct your, you know, attention,

01:22:34.020 --> 01:22:47.340

USBR - Jason Sutter: To me, Jason Sutter, and also note that it's for the DEIS public comments. If you go to either of those websites that I've just pointed out again, we also have a phone number, where you can also call and

01:22:48.150 --> 01:22:56.700

USBR - Jason Sutter: Ask questions and requests for any other materials. If you have those, that voice message is checked

01:22:57.720 --> 01:23:03.450

USBR - Jason Sutter: Daily. And so we will be able to get back to you as soon as possible.

01:23:04.110 --> 01:23:16.230

USBR - Jason Sutter: So those are the many ways that you guys can reach out and provide comments or get more information or download a lot of the supporting documents that our analysis was based on.

01:23:16.890 --> 01:23:31.380

USBR - Jason Sutter: So we hope that you found this video teleconference useful. I also encourage you to visit those as I just did. And once again, we appreciate your time, for taking your time to join us here today, and we look forward to receiving your input. Thank you.

01:23:36.000 --> 01:23:37.590

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Great. Thank you, Jason, for

01:23:37.980 --> 01:23:48.900

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Those closing remarks, and I'll just note again that Reclamation and Fish and Wildlife Service will remain on the line until 6:00pm Pacific Time.

01:23:50.070 --> 01:23:59.490

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: So again, if you have any last additional questions, please get those in now, and then we'll wrap up and officially close out the meeting in about five minutes.

01:28:41.910 --> 01:28:51.510

EMPSi - Amanda Biedermann: Alright, so it is 6:00pm Pacific Time, so we're going to officially close the meeting. But again, we want to thank everyone for your participation today.