

Chapter 4 - Environmental Commitments

The following environmental commitments would be implemented as an integral part of the Proposed Action.

1. Standard Reclamation Management Practices--Standard Reclamation management practices would be applied during construction activities to minimize environmental effects and would be implemented by Reclamation construction forces or included in construction specifications. Such practices or specifications include sections in the present report on public safety, dust abatement, air pollution, noise abatement, water pollution abatement, waste material disposal, erosion control, archaeological and historical resources, vegetation, and wildlife.
2. Additional Analyses--If the Proposed Action were to change significantly from that described in the EA because of additional or new information, or if other construction areas are required outside the areas analyzed in this EA, additional environmental analysis including cultural and paleontological analyses would be undertaken if necessary.
3. Clean Water Act Compliance: If required, before beginning construction activities associated with modification or relocation of recreation facilities, Reclamation would obtain a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The conditions and requirements of the 404 permit would be strictly adhered to by Reclamation and UWCD.
4. Appropriate measures would be taken to ensure that construction related sediments would not enter Steinaker Reservoir either during or after construction.
5. Cultural Resources-- SHPO consultation must be completed prior to authorizing a higher water elevation. If appropriate, a MOA will be executed as described in Section 3.3.9.2 to define the process to complete data recovery at one historic property for subsurface cultural material. The MOA would define a procedure to minimize, or mitigate possible adverse affects to this site, produce a research design and preserve important information through data collection which will add to the prehistoric record of the Steinaker area.

Any person who knows or has reason to know that he/she has inadvertently discovered possible human remains on Federal land, must provide immediate telephone notification of the discovery to Reclamation's Provo Area Office archaeologist. Work would stop until the proper authorities were able to assess

the situation onsite. This action would promptly be followed by written confirmation to the responsible Federal agency official with respect to Federal lands. The Utah State Historic Preservation Office and interested Native American tribal representatives would be promptly notified (see Section 3.2.9.2 for list of tribes contacted). Consultation would begin immediately. This requirement is prescribed under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (43 CFR Part 10); and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16 U.S.C. 470).

The above process is listed on a “yellow card,” to be placed in the cabs of heavy equipment used during construction of the proposed project. This card would be distributed to the equipment operators and verbal direction and description of possible inadvertent discovery scenarios would be given at a preconstruction meeting by the Provo Area Office archaeologist prior to any ground-disturbing activity.

6. Construction Activities Confined to Previously Disturbed Areas--All construction activities associated with modifying or relocating recreation facilities would be confined to previously disturbed areas, to the extent practicable. All winter construction activities occurring within ½ mile of any bald eagle roost site would be restricted to hours between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. from November 1st to March 31st and into April, if necessary until all bald eagles have left the area.
7. Public Access--Construction sites would be closed to public access. Temporary fencing, along with signs, would be installed to prevent public access. Reclamation and UWCD would coordinate with Steinaker State Park personnel as necessary to ensure public safety.
8. Disturbed Areas--All disturbed areas would be smoothed, shaped, seeded, contoured, and rehabilitated to as near their pre-project construction condition as practicable. After completion of the recreation facility construction and restoration activities, disturbed areas would be seeded at appropriate times with weed-free, native seed mixes. The composition of seed mixes would be coordinated with Reclamation wildlife habitat specialists. Weed control on all disturbed areas would be required.
9. Appropriate steps would be taken to prevent the spread of, and to otherwise control undesirable plants and animals within areas affected by construction activities. Equipment used for the project would be inspected for reproductive and vegetative parts, foreign soil, mud or other debris that may cause the spread of weeds, invasive species and other pests, and for removing such material before moving vehicles and equipment onto any Federal land or out of any area on Federal project land where work is performed. Upon the completion of work, decontamination would be performed within the work area before the vehicle and/or equipment are removed from Federal project lands.

10. Environmental Commitment Plan (ECP) and Environmental Commitment Checklist (ECC)--An ECP and an ECC would be prepared and used by the Provo Area Office to ensure compliance with the environmental commitments and the environmental quality protection requirements. A post-construction environmental summary (PCES) would be completed within 1 year after completion of the project to assess the effectiveness of the mitigation measures.

Chapter 5 - Consultation and Coordination

5.1 Introduction

This chapter details the consultation and coordination between Reclamation and other Federal, state, and local government agencies, Native American Tribes, and the public during the preparation of this EA. Compliance with NEPA is a Federal responsibility that involves the participation of all of these entities in the planning process. NEPA requires full disclosure about major actions taken by Federal agencies and accompanying alternatives, impacts, and potential mitigation of impacts.

5.2 Public Involvement

A public scoping period to provide the interested public an opportunity to provide input regarding the scope of this EA was initiated on October 18, 2005, with a scoping letter mailed to over 31 municipalities, organizations or agencies considered to have an interest in the Proposed Action. The scoping period ended on Friday, November 4, 2005 with three comment letters received. Those comments were given full consideration in defining issues to be analyzed in this EA.

A draft EA was made available for public review and comment from August 30, 2007 to September 14, 2007. Comments received on the draft EA were fully and carefully considered in preparing this final EA.

Interested parties may receive a copy of this final EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) by written request to Mr. W. Russ Findlay, Bureau of Reclamation, Provo Area Office. The address is 302 East 1860 South, Provo, Utah 84606-7317, or e-mail, rfindlay@uc.usbr.gov. To view this final EA and FONSI electronically, go to Reclamation's Provo Area office web site at www.usbr.gov/uc/provo/index.html (look under the section "Current Focus" and click on the final EA).

The project file in the Provo Area Office contains the comment letters as well as a complete description of all public involvement activities.

5.3 Native American Consultation

Consultation regarding cultural resources for the current proposed project is in progress with all interested tribes, including the Ute Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation near Fort Duchesne, Utah; the Northwest Band Shoshone Nation of Brigham City, Utah; the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Cedar City, Utah; the Skull Valley Goshute Tribe of Salt Lake City, Utah; the Confederated Goshute Tribe of Ibapah, Utah; the Zuni Indian Tribe of Zuni, New Mexico; the Hopi Tribe of Kykotsmovi, Arizona; the Pueblo of Zia of Zia, New Mexico; the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of Fredonia, Arizona; the Pueblo of Laguna, Laguna, New Mexico; and the Pueblo of Nambe, of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

This consultation is being conducted in compliance with 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2), on a government-to-government basis. Through this effort, the tribes are given a reasonable opportunity to (1) identify any concerns about historic properties; (2) advise on the identification of historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance; (3) express their views on the undertaking's effects on such properties; and (4) participate in the resolution of adverse effects.

5.4 Coordination with Other Agencies

Consultation will be undertaken with the Utah SHPO in the near future to comply with Section 106 of the NHPA for cultural resources.

Chapter 6 - Preparers

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