

## 5. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

### 5.0 INTRODUCTION

An environmental assessment (EA) must be prepared when a federal government agency considers approving an action within its jurisdiction that may impact the human environment. An EA aids federal officials in making decisions by presenting information on the physical, biological, and social environment of a proposed project and its alternatives. The first step in preparing an EA is to determine the scope of the project, the range of action alternatives, and the impacts to be included in the document.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR, Parts 1500-1508) require an early scoping process to determine the issues related to the Proposed Action and alternatives that the EA should address. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify important issues, concerns, and potential impacts that require analysis in the EA and to eliminate insignificant issues and alternatives from detailed analysis.

The Bowdoin Natural Gas Project EA was prepared by a third-party contractor working under the direction of and in cooperation with the lead agency for the project, which is the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Great Falls Field Station, Great Falls, Montana.

### 5.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Scoping Notice was prepared and submitted to the public by the BLM on March 27, 2006, requesting input to the proposed Bowdoin Natural Gas Field Development project. Scoping documents were sent out to the public listed on the BLM mailing list, as well as organizations, groups, and individuals requesting a copy of the scoping document. Eight written responses were received during the scoping period in response to this project. The issues and concerns identified by the public during the scoping period are summarized in **Section 1, Purpose and Need**.

During preparation of the EA, the BLM and the consultant interdisciplinary team (IDT) have communicated with, and received or solicited input from various federal, state, county, and local agencies, elected representatives, environmental and citizens groups, industries, and individuals potentially concerned with issues regarding the proposed drilling action. The contacts made are summarized in the following sections.

The following organizations/individuals either provided comments or were provided the opportunity to comment during the scoping period.

**FEDERAL OFFICES**

Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Office of the Governor  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
U.S. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers  
U.S.D.I. Bureau of Land Management

- Montana State Office
- Havre and Glasgow Field Stations and Lewistown and Malta Field Offices
- Great Falls Field Station

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**STATE AGENCIES AND OFFICES**

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation  
Montana Department of Environmental Quality (Land, Water, and Air)  
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation  
Montana Department of Transportation  
Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks  
Montana State Historic Preservation Office  
Montana State Representatives  
U.S. Representative Dennis Rehberg  
U.S. Senators Max Baucus and Jon Tester  
Former U.S. Senator Conrad Burns

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Phillips and Valley County Commissioners  
Phillips and Valley County Libraries

**MUNICIPALITIES**

Mayors of Malta, Glasgow  
Chambers of Commerce for Malta, Glasgow

**NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES**

Blackfeet Nation  
Chippewa Cree Tribe  
Crow Tribal Council  
Fort Belknap Assiniboine and Gros Ventre Tribes  
Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes  
Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians

**GRAZING PERMITTEES**

Grazing Permittees within the project boundary

**LEASE AND RIGHT-OF-WAY HOLDERS**

Affected oil and gas lessees  
Affected right-of-way holders

**LAND OWNERS**

**LOCAL MEDIA**

- Newspapers  
Associated Press  
Fort Benton River Press  
Glasgow Courier  
Great Falls Tribune  
Havre Daily News  
Lewistown News Argus  
Phillips County News
- Radio Stations  
KLTZ – Glasgow  
KMMR – Malta  
KOJM – Havre  
NPR – Helena
- Television Stations  
KFBB – Great Falls  
KRTV – Great Falls

**OTHER AGENCIES, INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, INDIVIDUALS, AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Audubon Society  
Central Montana RAC  
Earth Justice  
Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States  
Legal Defense Fund  
Montanans for Multiple Use  
Montana Petroleum Association  
Montana States Legal Foundation  
Montana Wildlife Federation  
Montana Wilderness Association  
National Wildlife Federation  
Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation  
Sierra Club  
The Wilderness Society

## 5.2 LIST OF PREPARERS

The following tables identify the BLM Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) (Table 5-1) and the consultant IDT (Table 5-2) that were principally involved with preparing this EA.

**Table 5-1. List of BLM Interdisciplinary Reviewers**

<b>BLM INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Don Judice	Team Leader/NEPA Coordinator
Jerry Clark	Cultural Heritage
Jon Collins	Transportation/Access VRM/OHV/Recreation
Jennie Jennings	Water Resources
Jon Kautt	Noxious Weeds
Amanda Keefer	GIS Technical Specialist
Candace Meyer	Realty/Rights-of-Way
Jody Miller	Ethnography
Dwain M. "Fritz" Prellwitz	Wildlife/Fisheries, Special Status Species
B.J. Rhodes	Rangeland Health
Josh Sorlie	Soils
John Thompson	Economy
Joan Trent	Sociology
Barney Whiteman	Fluid Minerals

**CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

**Table 5-2. List of Consultant Interdisciplinary Team EA Preparers**

<b>PRINCIPAL INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Gary Holsan	Gary Holsan Environmental Planning	Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Project Manager
Larry Bennett	Hayden-Wing Associates	Vegetation and Wetlands, Special Status Plants
George Blankenship	Blankenship Consulting	Socioeconomics, Transportation, Health & Safety, Noise
Dina Brown	KC Harvey, Inc.	Soils, Reclamation
Charles Bucans	Star Valley Engineering, Inc.	Proposed Action/Coordination
Susan Connell Jim Zapert	Sage Environmental Consulting	Air Quality
Mike Evers Ken Collier	WWC Engineering	Water Resources
Larry Hayden-Wing	Hayden-Wing Associates	Wildlife/Fisheries, Special Status Animals and Fish
Lloyd Levy	Lloyd Levy Consulting	Visual Resources and Recreation
Ben Parkhurst	Hayden-Wing Associates	Fisheries Biologist
Lynelle Peterson	Ethnoscience, Inc.	Cultural/Historical Resources
Renee Taylor	Taylor Environmental Consulting	Hazardous Materials, Health and Safety, Noise
Gustav Winterfeld	Erathem-Vanir Geological Consultants	Geology, Paleontology, Mineral Resources
<b>Technical Support Team</b>		
Connie Hedley	Hayden-Wing Associates	Document Editing and Production
Linda Schuemaker	Otak, Inc.	Final Document Editing and Production
Jason Sutter	Hayden-Wing Associates	Wildlife Biologist, GIS
Jeff Winstead	Hayden-Wing Associates	Cartographer, Wildlife Biologist