

## **CHAPTER 5 – CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

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### **5.1 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter is a description of the public outreach and participation opportunities made available through the development of the draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) and the coordination and consultation efforts to date with tribes, government agencies, and other stakeholders. It includes a list of preparers of the document and the agencies, organizations, and individuals that received a copy of the draft RMP/EIS for review. There have been and will continue to be many ways for the public to participate in the planning process for public lands under the jurisdiction of the Pocatello Field Office (PFO).

### **5.2 PUBLIC COLLABORATION AND OUTREACH**

#### **5.2.1 SCOPING PROCESS**

Scoping is the term used in the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500 et seq.) to define the early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed in the planning process. The scoping process provides an avenue to involve the public in identifying significant issues related to potential land use management actions. The process also helps identify any issues that are not significant and that can thereby be eliminated from detailed analysis. The list of stakeholders and other interested parties is also confirmed and augmented during the scoping process.

##### *5.2.1.1 Notice of Intent*

The Notice of Intent (NOI) is the legal document notifying the public of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) intent to initiate the planning process and to prepare an EIS for a major federal action. The NOI invites the participation of the affected and interested agencies, organizations, and members of the general public in determining the scope and significant issues to be addressed in the planning alternatives and analyzed in the EIS. The NOI for the Pocatello RMP was published in the *Federal Register* on November 14, 2001. The scoping period for receipt of public comments ended on June 30, 2003.

##### *5.2.1.2 Press Releases*

Local and regional newspapers and radio stations throughout the planning area were used to disseminate information on the Pocatello RMP scoping and planning process. The BLM prepared press releases announcing the official scoping meetings and inviting the public to provide input. The releases, mailed on May 15, May 29, and June 9, 2003, were provided to the following print and broadcast media:

<b>NEWSPAPERS</b>	
Associated Press, Boise	<i>Caribou County Sun</i> , Soda Springs
<i>Idaho State Journal</i> , Pocatello	<i>Idaho Statesman</i> , Boise
<i>Morning News</i> , Blackfoot	<i>News-Examiner</i> , Montpelier
<i>Preston Citizen</i> , Preston	<i>Post Register</i> , Idaho Falls
<i>Power County Press</i> , American Falls	<i>Shelley Pioneer</i> , Shelley
<i>Sho-Ban News</i> , Fort Hall	
<b>TELEVISION</b>	
KIFI Channel 8, Idaho Falls	KIDK Channel 3, Idaho Falls
KPVI Channel 6, Pocatello	
<b>RADIO</b>	
KICN-KLCE, Blackfoot	KVSI, Montpelier
KWIK-KPKY, Pocatello	KZBQ, Pocatello
KSEI, Pocatello	KBYI, Rexburg
KBRV-KFIS, Soda Springs	

#### 5.2.1.3 Public Scoping Notice and Planning Criteria

The BLM prepared a public scoping letter and briefing package and mailed them to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Council, Land Use Policy Commission, federal, state, and local agencies, interest groups, and members of the general public on April 23, 2003. The BLM also made the scoping letter and briefing package available for public view on the Internet in April 2003.

The briefing package provided information on the public scoping process, the scheduled open house scoping meetings, and background information on the purpose and need for the planning activity and identified need for change topics. Preliminary resource issues were identified and summarized, and preliminary planning criteria were also included. These serve as ground rules for the planning process and ensure that efforts are tailored to pertinent issues that will lead to the development of alternatives.

The notice invited the public to participate in the scoping process, to further develop issues and concerns to be addressed in the RMP based on the need for change topics, and to provide comment on the planning criteria. The mailing and e-mail addresses to send comments to were provided in both the scoping letter and briefing package. The mailing list was compiled from data kept by the PFO staff and included over 800 entries.

#### 5.2.1.4 Scoping Meetings

The BLM held public scoping meetings in Montpelier on May 28, in Malad on May 29, in Fort Hall on June 5, in Pocatello on June 10, and in Soda Springs on June 11, 2003. The BLM provided the local media with press releases announcing the time, location, and purpose of these meetings.

The format for the scoping meetings featured informal one-on-one presentations by interdisciplinary team (IDT) members. Attendees signed a registration sheet as they entered the room, then team members escorted them to stations set up around the room, detailing need-for-change items, resource issues, planning criteria, and a proposed schedule for completing the

planning process. Geographic information system (GIS) inventory maps at stations highlighted various resources.

Attendees were encouraged to mail in written comments and questions or to fill out comment cards specific to the Pocatello RMP. Copies of the briefing package and planning criteria were also made available at the comment table.

### **5.2.2 PROJECT WEB SITE**

The BLM maintains an interactive Web site (<http://www.id.blm.gov/planning/pocrmp>) to communicate with the public, collaborators, and BLM employees on the RMP/EIS process. The official Web site went online in April 2003, providing updates and information about the revision process. Materials on the Web site include such information as notices and general news regarding the project, RMP/EIS, and meeting schedules, and documents to be reviewed and commented on. Maps showing the planning area, appropriate land status, towns, rivers, highways, and other BLM-approved features are also posted. The BLM continuously updates the Web site with information, documents, and announcements.

### **5.2.3 NEWSLETTERS**

Newsletters are published throughout the course of the RMP/EIS process and are posted on the BLM Web site. Participants also may request to receive newsletters through e-mail. The newsletters remind the public of how they can comment and get involved and includes a calendar of events. Each edition addresses in detail issues of concern identified during the scoping process. The first newsletter was mailed in spring 2004 and addressed sagebrush ecosystems and phosphate mining and selenium release. Newsletters to county commissioners and tribal representatives are mailed, with cover letters addressed to specific individuals. A second newsletter was distributed in fall of 2004 that provided a project update.

## **5.3 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

The Pocatello RMP will provide guidance for a vast area of public land in southeastern Idaho and necessarily requires the coordination of a wide variety of organizations with interests in the area. Among those are governmental bodies that create, administer, and monitor policy for these, as well as adjacent, lands. The BLM established a coordinated effort in developing the Pocatello RMP by seeking the active participation of these parties.

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, United States (US) Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) are participating agencies with whom the BLM collaborated in developing the RMP. Representatives of the tribes and agencies attended the kickoff meeting, participated in field trips in September 2003, and attended alternatives development meetings.

The following documents the BLM's consultation and coordination efforts during the preparation of this draft RMP/EIS. Consultation is an ongoing effort throughout the entire process of developing the final RMP/EIS.

### 5.3.1 SHOSHONE-BANNOCK TRIBES

Prior to public scoping, the BLM met with the Land Use Commission and Resources and Wildlife staff specialists of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes on May 15, 2003, to offer information on developing the Pocatello RMP and to solicit input. In addition, the Tribal Council, members of the Land Use Commission, and resource staff specialists were sent individual scoping letters and briefing packages in April of 2003. One public scoping meeting was held on the Fort Hall Reservation on June 5, 2003. Yvette Tuell and Claude Broncho, representatives of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, participated in many of the IDT meetings.

### 5.3.2 FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES

Representatives of the USFWS and IDFG supplied comment letters through the public scoping process. The USFWS and IDFG participated as members of the BLM IDT crafting the Pocatello RMP. The Caribou-Targhee National Forest has been invited to participate as well.

## 5.4 DISTRIBUTION LIST

Scoping for the draft RMP/EIS began in April 2003. The BLM prepared a public scoping letter and briefing package and mailed them to over 800 federal, state, and local agencies, interest groups, and members of the public whose names were compiled from data kept by the PFO. The distribution list has been updated throughout the development of the draft RMP/EIS. The distribution list of agencies, organizations, and individuals who have been a part of the RMP/EIS process is available in the administrative record. In April 2005, the BLM sent a mailer to all agencies, organizations and individuals to determine who wished to be removed from or remain on the draft RMP/EIS distribution list. Those responding, wishing to remain on the distribution list, will receive the document in the media type requested (e.g. printed summary only, entire printed document, CD with electronic files or download documents from the Internet) when the draft RMP/EIS is released. Those wishing to download the document from the Pocatello Web site will be notified by letter that the document is available. The distribution list for the draft RMP/EIS is maintained by the PFO and is available on request.

## 5.5 LIST OF PREPARERS

An IDT of resource specialists from the BLM PFO prepared this RMP/EIS. Tetra Tech, Inc., and Maxim Technologies, Inc., a subsidiary of Tetra Tech, Inc., assisted the BLM in preparing these documents and in the planning process (**Table 5-1**). Also providing assistance were Yvette Tuell and Claude Broncho of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Jim Mende of IDFG, Dwayne Winslow and Deb Mignogno of the USFWS, Lloyd W. Briggs of the Idaho Falls District Resource Advisory Council, and the US Department of Agriculture, National Forest Service.

**Table 5-1 List of Draft RMP/EIS Preparers**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Years Experience</b>	<b>Role/Responsibility</b>	<b>Education</b>
<b>POCATELLO FIELD OFFICE</b>			
Jim Bowmer	3	Forestry, Vegetation	BS, Forest Resources
Ray Brainard	30 (Retired)	Forestry, Vegetation	BS, Forestry Management MS, Forestry
Jeff Cundick	17	Minerals, Oil and Gas, Geothermal Resources	BS, Mining Engineering MBA, Business
Phil Damon	22 (Retired)	Field Office Manager	Outdoor Recreation
Cleve B. Davis	6	Special Status Species (flora), Vegetation	BS, Botany
Geoff Hogander	28 (Retired)	Fish and Wildlife, Vegetation, Air, Soils and Geology	BS, Fish and Wildlife Management
Brian Holmes	4	GIS	BS Zoology MS, Biology
James Kumm	19	Fish and Wildlife, Special Status Species (fauna), Vegetation	BS, Wildlife Biology MS, Wildlife Sciences
Becky Lazdauskas	12	Lands and Realty	BS, Natural Science
Blaine Newman	13	Recreation, Visual Resources, Special Designations	BS, Wildland Recreation Management
Paul Oakes	33 (Retired)	RMP/EIS Planning Coordinator	BA, Biology, Graduate studies in soils
Matt Rendace	25	Vegetation, Livestock Grazing	BS, Range Management
Terry Lee Smith	21	RMP/EIS Project Manager, Fire Management, Socioeconomics, Cultural/Paleontology, and Vegetation	BS, Agriculture MS, Forestry and Range Management
Mitch Werner	18	Writer, Editor	BBA, Marketing/Film and Video Production
<b>US FISH AND WILDLIFE</b>			
Troy Smith	1	Wildlife, Special Status Species	BS, Wildlife Resources MS, Forest Science
<b>IDAHO FISH AND GAME</b>			
Martha Wackenhut	8	Wildlife, Special Status Species	BS, Wildlife MS, Biology/Zoology
<b>CONTRACTOR – EMPS: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT &amp; PLANNING SOLUTIONS, INC.</b>			
David Batts	15	Project Manager	MS, Natural Resource Planning, Michigan State University; BS, International Development, Lewis and Clark College
<b>CONTRACTOR – TETRA TECH, INC.</b>			
Kevin T. Doyle	18	Cultural Resources, Paleontological Resources, Indian Trust, Treaty Assets	BA, University of California, Santa Barbara
Derek Holmgren	7	Lands and Realty, Visual Resources	MPA and MSES, Indiana University; BS and BA, Oregon State University

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Years Experience</b>	<b>Role/Responsibility</b>	<b>Education</b>
Genevieve Kaiser	15	Socioeconomics, GIS	MS, Energy Management and Policy, University of Pennsylvania; BA, Economics, College of William and Mary; Professional Certification: GIS, University of Denver
David Kane	18	<i>Vegetation, Invasive Species Management, Fire Management, Livestock Grazing</i>	PhD, Ecology and Conservation Biology, University of Denver (expected 2006); BS, Wildlife Ecology, University of Wyoming
Mike Manka	12	Special Status Species, Fish and Wildlife, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic	BS, Biological Sciences, Ecology and Systematics, Cornell University
Angie Nelson	9	Recreation, Administrative Designations	BA, Biology, Drake University
Bindi Patel	4	Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice	MEM, Duke University; BA, Washington and Lee University
Holly Prohaska	8	Livestock Grazing	MS, Environmental Management, University of San Francisco; BA, Marine Science, Biological Pathway, University of San Diego
Randy Varney	15	Writer, Editor	MFA in Writing, University of San Francisco (in progress 2005); BA, Technical and Professional Writing, San Francisco State University
Ed Yates	14	Compliance Oversight	JD, Law, University of San Diego School of Law; BA, Political Science, University of California, Davis
Michael Egan	17	Mineral Resources	BS, Geology, Montana State University
Cameo Flood	20	Forestry, Fire Management	BS, Forest Resource Management, University of Montana
W. Wynn John	5	Air Quality	MS, Geological Engineering, University of Utah; BS, Environmental Earth Science, University of Utah
Joy McLain	9	Water Quality, Special Status Species	BS, Environmental Health/Biology minor, Boise State University
David Steed	14	Assistant Project Manager	BS, Idaho State University
Walt Vering	12	Aquatic Resources	MS, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point; BA, Wartburg College
Valerie Waldorf	10	GIS, Socioeconomic Support, Public Participation (newsletters)	MBA, University of Utah; BS, Westminster College

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Name	Years Experience	Role/Responsibility	Education
Jennifer Zakrowski	9	Project Manager, Recreation and Administrative Designations	MSM, Regis University (in progress 2007); BS, Public Affairs, emphasis in Natural Resource Management, Indiana University

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