

Chapter 5: Consultation and Coordination



CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

INTRODUCTION

It was recognized early in the project that a successful outcome would depend on intense public involvement. The goal of the public involvement strategy was to obtain project-related information and resource data, agency input, and local support for conservation of the natural, cultural, recreational, and scenic resources within and surrounding Curecanti National Recreation Area (NRA). Therefore, several meetings and discussions were held throughout the study process with federal, state, and county agencies and elected officials; American Indian tribes; the general public, park users, private landowners; and other stakeholders. This was accomplished through briefings, meetings, workshops, and open houses; three newsletters; and continual communication via telephone, e-mail, regular mail, fax, and the Internet.

The public has had several opportunities to provide ideas and get questions answered regarding the study. During four phases of the project the study team made special efforts to reach out to the public and to agency officials to exchange information and seek comment, including (1) the initial gathering of information on interests and concerns to address in the study (scoping); (2) the primary gathering and analysis of resource data and information; (3) the development of alternatives; and (4) the assessment of impacts of proposed management actions on the environment.

Due to the relationship between NPS and Reclamation in managing their respective interests and facilities within the recreation area, Reclamation is a cooperating agency with NPS on the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Resource Protection Study (RPS). Therefore, a Reclamation employee has been a full member of the study team throughout the project. He has attended many of the

meetings, open houses, and workshops; has been kept fully informed of the project's status and findings; and has made significant contributions throughout the process.

Shortly before the RPS began, Gunnison County initiated an effort, called the Curecanti Area Conservation Study, or CACS (initially called the Curecanti Area Conservation Plan), to make recommendations which would help conserve the natural, cultural, recreational and scenic resources surrounding the NRA that are important to county residents and area visitors. County staff consulted with the NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program staff in order to identify what resources might be important and what tools the county might have available to achieve conservation goals. During the first few years of the RPS process, the CACS and RPS were conducted in parallel, sharing information. Eventually, the CACS effort was absorbed by the county's new effort in producing a comprehensive plan, also known as a master plan. Although the county has completed two components of the comprehensive plan (one for the Crested Butte to Gunnison corridor, and one for the area around Marble), it has not yet begun the planning process for the U.S. 50 corridor. In the interim, long-range planning staff have expressed a continued interest in the RPS, and the possibility of incorporating components of the RPS recommendations into that portion of the comprehensive plan that would include the Curecanti area.

The key milestones of consultation and coordination during the project are listed below. In addition to the cited milestones, there have been continual informal meetings and other instances of communication, consultation, and coordination with others to acquire resource data and further information leading to the production of the Draft RPS/EIS, and to answer questions regarding the RPS. Details of the listed milestone briefings, meetings, and open houses, and their findings, are contained in trip reports, which are available at the NRA.

The following abbreviations are relevant in the ensuing discussion:

- BLM = Bureau of Land Management
- CACS = Gunnison County's Curecanti Area Conservation Study
- CDOW = Colorado Division of Wildlife
- CREDA = Colorado River Energy Distributors Association
- EIS = Environmental Impact Statement
- GIS = Geographic Information System
- JAME = Joint Agency Management Effort
- LUR = Gunnison County's Land Use Resolution
- NPS = National Park Service
- NRA = Curecanti National Recreation Area
- PBR = Preliminary Boundary Recommendation for NRA
- Reclamation = Bureau of Reclamation
- RPS = Curecanti NRA Resource Protection Study
- RTCA = Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (NPS)
- USFS = U.S. Forest Service
- USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- UVWUA = Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association
- Western = Western Area Power Administration.

NOTICE OF INTENT

A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for the RPS at Curecanti NRA, Montrose and Gunnison Counties, Colorado, was published in the Federal Register on May 3, 2000, Volume 65, Number 86.

CONSULTATION WITH AGENCIES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Bureau of Reclamation has participated in the development of this document, and of the various alternatives. In addition, the following agencies have been briefed on numerous occasions throughout the study, have provided input into the development of the Proposed Action, and support the concepts and proposed land transfers recommended in the Proposed Action, subject to additional review and comment that the Draft RPS/EIS will receive after being released to the public.

- Bureau of Land Management area managers and the state director
- Colorado Division of Wildlife local and regional managers
- Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests
- Western Area Power Administration staff from Denver and Salt Lake City
- Staff of the following elected U.S. congressional officials:
 - Senator Wayne Allard
 - Former Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell
 - Former Representative Scott McInnis
 - Representative John Salazar
 - Senator Ken Salazar

Gunnison and Montrose County officials and planning staff have expressed interest in the project. Gunnison County planners are considering incorporating study data and recommendations into the component of the county's comprehensive master plan that will deal with the portion of the county that includes the Curecanti area. To date, the county officials that have been briefed on the Proposed Action generally support the concepts and proposed land transfers being recommended.

Additional consultation and briefings will occur as recommendations to Congress are prepared.

Following is a list of meetings that were held with agencies and elected officials:

- March 29, 2000: Project scoping meeting with BLM, CDOW, City of Gunnison, Gunnison County, Montrose County, and USFS.
- Week of May 1, 2000: Project scoping meetings with BLM, Gunnison County officials, and Montrose County officials.
- October 31, 2000: Meeting with Reclamation and UVWUA in Montrose to discuss their interests.
- December 4, 2000: Meeting with Gunnison County planner at the Montrose Public Lands Center to discuss issues common to the RPS and CACS.
- December 5, 2000: Meeting with Montrose County Commissioner-Elect in Montrose to discuss issues of mutual concern between Montrose County and NPS.
- December 6, 2000: Meeting with Gunnison County Commissioner at Elk Creek (NRA headquarters) to discuss issues of mutual concern between Gunnison County and NPS.
- May 3, 2001: Meeting with Reclamation in Grand Junction to brief staff on the status of the RPS and discuss issues of mutual concern.
- June and July, 2001: Meetings with adjacent land management agencies and others, including BLM, CDOW, CREDA, Gunnison County, USFS, and Western, to present the progress of the RPS; obtain feedback, understanding, and buy-in from the agencies before discussing the project any further with private landowners and other stakeholders; and to plan for on-going coordination with the agencies.
- September 18, 2001: Meeting with Colorado state officials in Denver to present the status of the RPS, obtain their comments, and explore the possibility of the state's involvement in the JAME.
- October 17, 2001: Meeting with staff of U.S. Representative Scott McInnis in Washington, D.C. to present the status of the RPS, receive input, and evaluate the reaction to initial proposals. (NOTE: Additional meetings had been scheduled on Thursday afternoon, October 18, with the staffs of Senator Wayne Allard and Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell. However, these meetings were cancelled due to office closures as a result of the anthrax situation in the capitol area.)
- December 12, 2001: Meeting with Gunnison County officials in Gunnison to discuss issues of mutual concern to both the RPS and the CACS.
- January 10-11, 2002: Meetings with State Representatives and Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell's staff in the Denver area, to present the status of the RPS in advance of the next round of meetings with the general public and affected landowners, and to obtain their feedback; and with CDOW, the Trust for Public Land, and USFWS in the Denver area to obtain information relating to landowner incentives for resource and species protection.
- March 20, 2002: Meeting with Gunnison County officials at Elk Creek to discuss the RPS-related topics of a preliminary new boundary recommendation for the NRA, the JAME concept, the LUR, and the CACS; and to determine the county's level of support for the RPS.
- April 30, 2002: Meeting with Gunnison County Planners at Elk Creek to strategize partnership efforts between NPS and Gunnison County regarding the RPS and the county's upcoming master plan.
- May 1, 2002: Meeting with Montrose County Planner in Montrose to discuss

Montrose County's interests and involvement in the RPS, including its relationship to the county's new Master Plan, which was adopted in 2001.

- June 13, 2002: Meeting with BLM, CDOW, Gunnison County, Reclamation, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Uncompahgre Plateau Project, USFS, and Western at Elk Creek to share preliminary findings of the RPS, and explore inter-agency means of protecting natural, cultural, recreational, and scenic resources surrounding the NRA. This was the initial meeting of what has become the Joint Agency Management Effort (JAME), which meets periodically to try and resolve area-wide resource management problems on an issue-by-issue basis.
- September 5, 2002: Meeting with Gunnison County planners to discuss ways in which NPS and the county can work more closely together on issues involving the RPS and the county's master plan.
- February 12, 2003: Meeting with Gunnison County planner in Gunnison to prepare for upcoming landowner meetings for the RPS, in which the county planner was involved.
- Week of March 17, 2003: Meetings with state elected officials in Denver, Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell's staff in Fort Collins, and State government officials in Denver, to brief them on the status of the RPS and its alternatives, and to receive comments and concerns, in advance of upcoming meetings with landowners.
- Week of March 24, 2003: Meetings with congressional staff in Montrose, and Montrose County planner in Montrose, to brief them on the status of the RPS and its alternatives, and to receive comments and concerns, in advance of upcoming meetings with landowners.
- May 21, 2003: Meeting with Senator Wayne Allard's staff in Englewood, to brief them on the status of the RPS and its alternatives, and to receive comments and concerns, in advance of upcoming meetings with landowners.
- Morning of June 26, 2003: Meeting with Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks in Washington, D.C., to present and receive comments on the preliminary alternatives of the RPS.
- Afternoon of June 26, 2003: Meeting with representatives from the offices of Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Senator Wayne Allard, and Representative Scott McInnis in Washington, D.C., to present and receive comments on the RPS preliminary alternatives.
- September 24, 2003: Meeting with Montrose County officials in Montrose to review the RPS preliminary alternatives and receive comments.
- November 25, 2003: Meeting in Crawford and field trip to grazing site with USFS, several members of the Black Mesa Grazing Pool, and a representative from U.S. Representative Scott McInnis' office to explain the goals and objectives of the RPS, and to receive input regarding potential affects on the recommendation pertaining to a long-established grazing permit issued by the USFS. As a result of the meeting, an agreement was reached to redraw the proposed boundary line in the vicinity of Long Gulch/Bear Trap area along Colorado State Highway 92 to reduce the potential impact to grazing permittees.
- December 11, 2003: Meeting with BLM, CDOW, Gunnison County, USFS, and Western at Elk Creek to assess impacts of proposed actions in the RPS, especially as they affect other agencies and the local socio-economic environment. NOTE: The Reclamation representative attended Impacts Workshop sessions with the NRA staff earlier in the week.

- Week of December 15, 2003: Meetings with federal and state officials, and private property owners, in the Curecanti area, including on-site visits to the park, to explore partnership opportunities with the private sector to conserve resources surrounding the NRA and adjacent to Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.
- March 1, 2004: Meeting with Colorado Department of Natural Resources in Denver to provide an update on the RPS, present the proposed action, and receive comments.
- May 26, 2005: Meeting at Elk Creek with agencies who reviewed the April 28, 2005 multi-agency review version of the Draft RPS/EIS, including BLM, CDOW, and Natural Resources Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, for review and comment on the document.
- June 3, 2005: Meeting with USFS at their office in Delta to discuss their comments on the April 28, 2005 multi-agency review version of the Draft RPS/EIS.
- August 3, 2005: Meeting in Crawford, and on-site visit with USFS, to redraw the proposed NRA boundary line in the vicinity of Long Gulch/Bear Trap area along CO 92.
- August 31, 2005: Meeting with Reclamation at their office in Grand Junction to address their comments on the April 28, 2005 multi-agency review version of the Draft RPS/EIS.
- September 1, 2005: Guided congressional staffers from Grand Junction on a field trip to Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Curecanti National Recreation Area. Participants included Richard Baca (office of U.S. Representative John Salazar), Trudy Kareus (office of U.S. Senator Ken Salazar), and Derek Wagner (office of U.S. Senator Wayne Allard). Provided briefing on the status of the Draft Resource Protection Study and answered questions.
- November 7, 2005: Meeting with congressional staffers at their office in Grand Junction, including Richard Baca (office of U.S. Representative John Salazar), and Trudy Kareus (office of U.S. Senator Ken Salazar), to brief them in more detail on the RPS.
- November 21, 2005: Meeting with new Gunnison County Long Range Planner at his office to brief him on the status of the Draft Resource Protection Study, and to obtain his comments.
- November 22, 2005: Meeting with CDOW at their office in Gunnison to address their comments on the April 28, 2005 multi-agency review version of the Draft RPS/EIS.
- July 24, 2006: Meeting with Gunnison County Long Range Planner, Gunnison County Commissioner, and Southeast Regional Director from the office of U.S. Representative John Salazar, at the county office building in Gunnison, to brief them on the status of the study, and to obtain their comments in preparation for finalizing the Draft RPS/EIS.
- July 25, 2006 (Morning): Meeting with Montrose County Land Use Director, and Montrose County Manager, at the county office building in Montrose, to brief them on the status of the study, and to obtain their comments in preparation for finalizing the Draft RPS/EIS.
- July 25, 2006 (Afternoon): Meeting with BLM officials, including Gunnison Field Office Manager and Montrose Field Office Manager, at Elk Creek, to brief them on the status of the study, and to obtain their comments in preparation for finalizing the Draft RPS/EIS.
- August 10, 2006: Meeting with Montrose BLM staff, including Gunnison Field Office Manager, Associate Field Office

Manager, and Realty Specialist, to discuss follow-up questions and issues from the July 25 meeting.

- September 22, 2006: Telephone call between NPS Intermountain Regional Director Mike Snyder, and Reclamation Upper Colorado Regional Director Rick Gold; and follow-up call from Reclamation to NPS on September 25, 2006; wherein agreement was reached with regards to the following wording in the Draft RPS/EIS:
 - For both alternatives in the Draft RPS/EIS, the Bureau of Reclamation and Western Area Power Administration would continue their administrative jurisdiction and responsibilities within and adjacent to the national recreation area, including construction, operations, maintenance, replacement, and additions, consistent with Reclamation law, and other applicable laws and regulations. Formal establishment of the area as an NRA under Alternative 2 would not amend or supplement existing Reclamation law applicable to the Aspinall Unit or the Uncompahgre Project. Reclamation, Western, and the National Park Service would consult with each other as necessary and appropriate. Thus, there would be no adverse impacts to Reclamation and Western responsibilities under either alternative.

MEETINGS WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC, PARK VISITORS, PRIVATE LANDOWNERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

- Week of May 1, 2000: Project scoping meetings with private landowners.

- May 24, 2000: Public open house in Gunnison for joint project scoping for RPS and CACS.
- September 26, 2000: Kick-off meeting in Montrose for Citizen Photographic Assessment.
- December 5, 2000: Public open house in Montrose to present the results of the Citizen Photographic Assessment to the Montrose community.
- December 6, 2000: Public open house in Gunnison to present the results of the Citizen Photographic Assessment to the Gunnison community.
- March 5-7, 2002: Two focus group workshops in Gunnison and Montrose, and three public open houses in Gunnison, Hotchkiss, and Montrose, to solicit more ideas from the public on the unmet potential of land-based and reservoir tributary-based recreation and resource education in areas within and surrounding the NRA. Recommendations for necessary and appropriate facilities, and concerns about protection of natural, cultural, and scenic resources were also solicited.
- March 27, 2003: Meeting with Club 20 President in Grand Junction to inform him of the goals and objectives and progress of the RPS, and invite his participation if he so desired.
- May 28-29, and June 2-5, 2003: Meetings with private landowners in Crawford, Montrose, and Gunnison to discuss the RPS. Following is a summary of the meetings:
 - It was decided early on to offer opportunities for potentially affected landowners to meet with members of the study team prior to finalizing the alternatives. The landowners who would be most affected are those within the Conservation Opportunity Area (COA). This represented a total of 91 different landowners, whether individuals, groups, partnerships,

- etc. Rather than try to meet with all 91 landowners individually, and rather than meet with everyone all at once, it was decided to divide the landowners into 6 groups, and conduct a separate meeting for each group, trying to keep each group size between 10 and 20 people. The groups were determined by six geographical areas surrounding the NRA. Thus, each meeting consisted of “neighbors.”
- Prior to the meetings, invitations under Gunnison County’s letterhead were sent to the landowners. Each was invited to one of six meetings. Information folders were given to all attendees. Following the meetings, folders were sent to all landowners who did not attend the meetings, and to some relatives of those who did attend, at their request.
 - A total of 91 landowners were invited to attend the meetings. A total of 16 landowners (18%) attended the meetings, along with some friends and/or relatives. The meetings were held for the following purposes:
 - Present background, goals, and objectives of the Curecanti RPS; and related Gunnison County resource conservation and long-range planning efforts.
 - Show areas of opportunity for resource conservation (COA) surrounding the NRA.
 - Identify potential landowner incentives for resource conservation.
 - Identify landowners' related long-term goals and objectives.
 - Explore landowner willingness to work in partnership with NPS and other entities to conserve the natural, cultural, recreational, and scenic resources in the Curecanti area.
 - FINDINGS: In general, the landowners were interested in the COA concept. Most were at the meetings primarily to learn more about the RPS, but were reluctant to make any commitments regarding partnering with NPS or other entities. They tended to display a “wait-and-see attitude”. Some expressed concern about condemnation of private property, and were relieved to learn that it would not be a recommendation of the study. Some landowners supported the goals and objectives of the study, and were very much interested in working in partnership with NPS to explore tools of resource conservation that would benefit both the NRA and the landowner. They were anxious for NPS to take action as quickly as possible. There appeared to be no opposition to the ideas presented by the study team, or to the direction the study was taking.
 - October and November, 2003, and February, 2004: At the request of a landowner, four additional meetings were held with various members of an extended family that jointly own property adjacent to the NRA. The landowners were unable to attend the earlier neighborhood meetings held in May and June of 2003.
 - November 25, 2003: Meeting in Crawford and field trip to grazing site with USFS, several members of the Black Mesa Grazing Pool, and a representative from U.S. Representative Scott McInnis’ office to explain the goals and objectives of the RPS, and to receive input regarding potential affects on the recommendation pertaining to a long-established grazing permit issued by the USFS. As a result of the meeting, an agreement was reached to redraw the

proposed boundary line in the vicinity of Long Gulch/Bear Trap area along CO 92 to reduce the potential impact to grazing permittees.

- December 3, 2003: Meeting in Denver with representatives of the Black Canyon Ranch Properties Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), which owns property north of the NRA near East Portal, to discuss goals and objectives of the RPS in relation to goals and objectives the LLC has with its property.
- Week of December 15th, 2003: Meetings in the Curecanti area with private property owners, and federal and state officials, including on-site visits to the park, to explore partnership opportunities with the private sector to conserve resources surrounding the NRA and adjacent to Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.
- November 18, 2005: Meeting with landowners on CO 92 to provide status update of RPS process, and to discuss concepts of potential land exchanges.

MEETINGS WITH AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES

In a study performed by Dave Ruppert of the NPS Intermountain Support Office, Denver, published in August, 2002, entitled: “American Indian Affiliation: Curecanti National Recreation Area,” it was determined that the American Indian tribes historically associated with the Curecanti area are the Northern Ute Tribe in Ft. Duchesne, Utah; the Southern Ute Tribe in Ignacio, Colorado; and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe in Towaoc, Colorado.

Contact was initiated between NPS and the three Ute tribes regarding the RPS on March 6, 2001 by a letter from the NRA superintendent to the three Ute tribes, inviting them to a meeting in Montrose, Colorado to discuss the RPS and other issues of mutual interest relating to Curecanti NRA and Black

Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. (The superintendent manages both parks.) A number of telephone calls and letters of correspondence ensued, resulting in one meeting, between a representative of the Northern Ute Tribe and NPS in Montrose on December 11, 2001. This was followed by a presentation by the study team to a joint meeting of the three Ute tribes in Grand Junction, Colorado on June 14, 2002. NPS continued to keep the tribes informed of the progress of the RPS by such means as project newsletters, and through invitations to attend additional project meetings.

- December 11, 2001: Meeting with the Northern Ute Tribe at the Ute Indian Museum in Montrose to describe the RPS project; identify information needs of both parties; and discuss opportunities for on-going consultation regarding the RPS, and other NPS-related issues.
- June 14, 2002: Meeting with the Tri-Ute Council at its quarterly meeting in Grand Junction to explain the goals and objectives and current status of the RPS; seek comments and concerns from the Council; and obtain recommendations on how to proceed with consultation. Members of the Council in attendance included representatives from all three Ute tribes.

NEWSLETTERS

Three newsletters were prepared over the course of the project. All three newsletters may be seen on the NRA’s website at www.nps.gov/cure, by clicking on “Management,” then on “more information” under “Curecanti Resource Protection Study.”

The first newsletter was published in the spring of 2001. It provided a general description of the NRA and area resources, and described the study purpose and process. It provided a summary of study issues and concerns, outlined the data collection and analysis process, and highlighted the results

of a citizen's photographic assessment. The newsletter also solicited ideas from the public about resource protection and the potential for recreational use within and surrounding the NRA.

The second newsletter was released in the winter of 2002 to announce a series of public open houses. It again solicited comments on the unmet potential of land-based and reservoir tributary-based recreation and resource education in areas both within and surrounding the NRA.

The third newsletter was released in the fall of 2003 to present two major approaches to resource conservation — a Conservation Opportunity Area (COA), and a Joint Agency Management Effort (JAME); management considerations; preliminary boundary alternatives; and tools for encouraging conservation measures. The newsletter also solicited comments on the preliminary recommendations contained therein.

MULTI-AGENCY REVIEW VERSION OF THE DRAFT RPS/EIS

On April 28, 2005, a review version of the entire Draft RPS/EIS was distributed to partnering agencies for review and comment, at the same time the document was placed on official internal NPS regional and Washington office policy review.

RECLAMATION REVIEW VERSION OF THE DRAFT RPS/EIS

Reclamation provided extensive comments on the Multi-Agency Review Version of the Draft RPS/EIS, and wanted to review a follow-up version that addressed their comments. Therefore, a revised version of the Draft RPS/EIS was sent to Reclamation on June 21, 2006, for their review and

comment. Through close coordination between NPS and Reclamation, their comments on that revised version have been addressed in this current version of the Draft RPS/EIS.

COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS, REGULATIONS, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND NATIONAL PARK SERVICE POLICIES

SECTION 106 CONSULTATION

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16USC, et seq.) requires that for any action that affects cultural resources either listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the associated American Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be given opportunities to comment. The associated tribes and the Advisory Council have had opportunities to participate in the planning process since initial scoping.

CONSULTATION FOR SPECIES OF CONCERN

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16USC 1531, et seq.) must ensure that any action taken by a federal agency does not jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modifications of critical habitat. Section 7 requires that federal agencies consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to make that determination. Information regarding threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species occurring in the area was obtained from USFWS, and is included in the Affected Environment chapter.

PUBLIC REVIEW PROCESS

At the time the Draft RPS/EIS is released for public review, notices of availability will be published in the Federal Register and the local media, and a summary of the Draft RPS/EIS will be distributed to each contact on the NRA's mailing list (currently about 700, including individuals, organizations, and government and agency offices). The full document will be available for review on the Internet at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>, and at local libraries. The Draft RPS/EIS is subject to a 90-day public comment period. During this time the public is encouraged to submit their written comments to NPS, as instructed near the end of the Abstract at the beginning of this document.

Following the close of the comment period, all public comments will be reviewed, and NPS will issue responses to substantive comments received. Necessary and appropriate changes will be made to the document, and the Final RPS/EIS will be released, which will include public comments on the Draft RPS/EIS, and NPS responses to those comments.

The public will then have 30 days in which to lodge objections to the Proposed Action. Following this period, NPS will write a Record of Decision, and send a report to Congress. Implementation of the Proposed Action will then depend on congressional action.

LIST OF RECIPIENTS FOR THE DRAFT RPS/EIS

All of the recipients were sent the Summary of the Draft Resource Protection Study/Environmental Impact Statement. In addition, printed copies of the full document, and/or electronic versions on CD, were sent to some recipients such as government agencies and officials. In addition, the full document can be accessed on the Internet at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>, and at local libraries.

Federal Agencies and Elected Officials

- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- National Park Service, Legislative Affairs
- National Park Service, Washington Office
- Uncompahgre Plateau Project (a multi-agency/private partnership)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- U.S. Representative John Salazar
- U.S. Senator Wayne Allard
- U.S. Senator Ken Salazar
- Western Area Power Administration

Affiliated American Indian Groups

- Southern Ute Tribe
- Uintah and Ouray Ute Indian Tribe (Northern Ute Tribe)
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

State of Colorado Agencies and Elected Officials

- Colorado Department of Natural Resources
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Colorado State Historic Preservation Office
- Colorado State Parks
- Office of the Governor, Policy and Initiatives
- State Representative Kathleen Curry
- State Representative Raymond Rose
- Former State Senator Lewis Entz
- State Senator Jim Isgar

Local Governments

- City of Delta
- City of Gunnison
- City of Montrose
- Delta County Board of County Commissioners
- Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
- Gunnison County Planning Department
- Montrose County Board of County Commissioners
- Montrose County Land Use Department
- Town of Crawford
- Town of Hotchkiss
- Town of Paonia

Private Entities and Organizations

- Alliance of Backcountry Parachutists
- Black Canyon Anglers
- Black Canyon Audubon Society
- Black Canyon Land Trust
- Black Canyon Ranch Properties, L.L.C.
- Chipeta Chapter, Colorado Archeological Society
- Club 20
- Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
- Colorado Environmental Coalition
- Colorado Livestock Association
- Colorado Mountain Club
- Colorado Native Plant Society
- Colorado Natural Heritage Program
- Colorado Open Lands
- Colorado River Energy Distributors Association
- Colorado River Water Conservation District
- Colorado Trail Riders
- Crawford Chamber of Commerce
- Crested Butte Chamber of Commerce
- Delta Chamber of Commerce
- Delta County Tourism Cabinet
- Delta/Montrose Electric Association
- Delta/Montrose Public Lands Partnership

- Grand Valley Anglers
- Gunnison Angling Society
- Gunnison Arts Center
- Gunnison County Association of Realtors
- Gunnison County Chamber of Commerce
- Gunnison County Electric Association
- Gunnison County Stockgrowers Association
- Gunnison County Trails Commission
- Gunnison/Crested Butte Tourism Association
- Gunnison Gorge Anglers
- Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy
- High Country Citizens' Alliance
- Hotchkiss Chamber of Commerce
- Montrose Association of Realtors
- Montrose Chamber of Commerce
- Montrose County Cattleman's Association
- Montrose Historical Society
- Montrose Rod and Gun Club
- Montrose Visitor and Convention Bureau
- National Park Foundation
- National Parks and Conservation Association
- Paonia Chamber of Commerce
- Recreation Resource Management Region 10
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Rocky Mountain Real Estate
- San Juan Mountain Runners
- Sheep Mountain Alliance
- Sierra Club, Rocky Mountain Chapter
- Sonoran Institute
- Southern Rockies Force Network
- The Access Fund
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Wilderness Society
- Trout Unlimited
- Trust for Public Lands
- Uncompahgre Valley Association

- Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders
- Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association
- Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
- US Hang Gliding Association
- West Elk Loop Scenic and Historic Byway
- Western Colorado Congress
- Western Colorado Interpretive Association
- Western Horizon Resorts
- Western State College
- Wilderness Opportunities

Other

- Other contacts on the park's mailing list, mostly individuals (approximately 500)
- Various local repositories

PREPARERS AND CONSULTANTS

PREPARERS OF THE DRAFT RESOURCE PROTECTION STUDY/ ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The following people were primarily responsible for preparing the Draft RPS/EIS, and/or important background papers used in the Draft RPS/EIS.

Bureau of Reclamation

Alan Schroeder, Natural Resource Specialist, EIS Cooperating Agency Representative from the BOR Lands and Recreation Resources Group, Western Colorado Area Office, Grand Junction, Colorado. Responsible for overall coordination of Bureau of Reclamation input to the study, the EIS, and recommendations to Congress. BS in Forest Science, Forest Management Option. Over 30 years of experience in Federal land and resource management with the US Bureau of Reclamation, US Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service and US Forest Service. Over 27 years of experience in resource management planning and NEPA documentation with the

Bureau of Reclamation and the Bureau of Land Management.

National Park Service – Curecanti NRA/ Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP

- Marianne August, Project Assistant and GIS Specialist. Responsible for GIS analysis and cartography for the project, and coordinating information-gathering from other agencies. Bachelors Degree in Geography. Four years with the National Park Service.
- Ralph Falsetto, former Cartographic Technician. Responsible for GIS analysis and cartography for the project, and coordinating information-gathering from other agencies. Currently a GIS Specialist for USFS at Fishlake National Forest in Richfield, Utah. Bachelors Degree in Geology. Two years with the National Park Service.
- Forest Frost, Archeologist. Served as RPS liaison during consultations with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Ute tribal representatives. Provided technical support on issues dealing with the NRA's cultural resources. B.A. Anthropology, B.A. Geography, M.A. Geography. Member -- Registry of Professional Archaeologists. Twenty years with the National Park Service.
- Pete Hart, former Interim Superintendent. Overall oversight of the Draft Resource Protection Study during an extended period between permanent superintendents in 2003. Returned from retirement for several details in the National Park Service after a 34-year NPS career as a ranger, and later superintendent at some fifteen NPS areas. BA and MA in Geography.
- Dave Roberts, Management Assistant, RPS Park Liaison. Responsible for coordinating the project at the park level. Contributed to all sections of the document. Experience in NRA operations, interpretation, visitor and resource protection,

resource management, fee collection, environmental compliance, and NRA planning. Former Chief Ranger, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, Tonto National Monument, Fort Union National Monument; Park Ranger, Montezuma Castle National Monument; Park Technician, Fort Point National Historic Site, Muir Woods National Monument. BA in Economics, with post graduate work in Environmental Geography. Thirty-one years with the National Park Service.

- Connie Rudd, Superintendent. Responsible for management of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Curecanti National Recreation Area, including future implementation of the Draft Resource Protection Study, and coordination of partners and neighbors. Experience includes assignments as Deputy Superintendent at Shenandoah National Park (7 years), Superintendent at Oklahoma City National Memorial and Chickasaw National Recreation Area (4 years); Rocky Mountain Regional Chief of Interpretation, Planner with Harper's Ferry Center and Denver Service Center, field interpreter and educator at Grand Canyon and Rocky Mountain National Parks (10 years), English teacher at Colorado Mountain College (Steamboat), guest instructor at Albright Training Center and Mather Training Center. Participated in certificate program at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, Conservation Leadership Institute, 2006-2007. BA in English, MS in Physical Geography. Twenty-six years with the National Park Service.
- Ken Stahlnecker, Chief, Resource Stewardship and Science. Responsible for coordinating and providing natural and cultural resources input to the study process at the NRA level. Provided review for all sections of the document. Experience in

resource management, environmental compliance, NRA operations, and NRA planning. Former Resource Manager, Denali National Park and Preserve, Crater Lake National Park, Curecanti National Recreation Area, and Antietam National Battlefield. BS in Forest Science. Twenty-three years with the National Park Service.

- Sheridan Steele, former Superintendent. Responsible for initially setting the overall direction, and providing guidance and advice during the first four years of the study. In park management for 27 years, starting with NPS as Management Assistant at Cuyahoga Valley NRA. Prior to that, worked as a park planner for Ohio State Parks and for a non-profit conservation organization in Ohio. Also worked at Fort Scott NHS in Kansas and Rocky Mountain NP in Colorado, and was on detail in the Washington Office of NPS for a year. Superintendent of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Curecanti NRA for 7 years, ending in 2003. Currently Superintendent at Acadia NP in Maine. Holds a BS in Business Administration and MS in Natural Resources Management. Twenty-nine years with the National Park Service.
- Bill Wellman, former Superintendent. Responsible for overall management of Curecanti National Recreation Area and Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, and for providing guidance and advice on the Draft Resource Protection Study. Experience includes assignments as superintendent at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, AZ; Great Sand Dunes National Monument, CO; Timpanogos Cave National Monument, UT; and Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site, ND. Holds a BS degree in Park Management from NC State. Thirty-four years with the National Park Service.

National Park Service – Intermountain Support Office, Denver

- Jeff Heywood, Team Leader, Landscape Architect/Planner, Contracting Officer's Representative. Responsible for overall management of the project. Contributed to all sections of the document. Experience at Intermountain Regional Office and NPS Denver Service Center writing general management plans, development concept plans, and environmental impact statements. Experience at Curecanti NRA as facility manager; and chief of planning, construction, and concessions. BS(IE) & ME(IND) in industrial engineering; MLA in landscape architecture. Twenty-eight years with the National Park Service.
- Dave Ruppert, Cultural Anthropologist. Produced a report on American Indian Affiliation at Curecanti NRA, and advised and participated in meetings with affiliated tribes. Presently works in the Office of Indian Affairs and American Culture, and serves as program manager for the Applied Ethnography Program in the Intermountain Region of the National Park Service in Denver, Colorado. Served as a cultural anthropologist with the cultural resources office of the National Park Service in the Intermountain Region, and has held joint appointments as a research anthropologist with the Bureau of Land Management and the Office of the Federal Inspector in Alaska. Served on the faculties of the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, Alaska, and Regis University in Denver, Colorado. Presently holds the position of associate professor of anthropology at the University of Colorado at Denver. Holds a PhD in cultural anthropology from the University of Arizona. Twenty-eight years with the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Office of the Federal Inspector.

Contractors

- Nicole Korbe, Environmental Planner. Primary author of the sections of the document on natural resources, including descriptions and impact analysis of water quality, geology and paleontology, vegetation and wildlife, and special status species. Also participated in meetings and workshops as a member of the planning team. Experience in NEPA, natural resource impact assessment, wildlife habitat assessments, vegetation community analysis, wildlife and vegetation surveys, threatened and endangered species permitting and compliance, wetlands permitting and assessment, and other aspects of environmental planning and compliance. B.S. in Biology with a minor emphasis in Geology, with post graduate work in Ecology and Hydrology. Seven years experience in natural resource assessment.
- Karen Lusby, NEPA Specialist/ Environmental Planner. Responsible for initial compilation of text for the Draft RPS/EIS. Conducted workshop to develop impacts. Compiled chapters on Purpose and Need, and Alternatives, in cooperation with park and regional staff; and authored sections on Scenic Quality, Economic and Social Conditions, Neighboring Private Lands and Landowners, and National Park Service and Neighboring Agency Management and Operations. Experience in park planning (DO-2), environmental compliance (DO-12), resource management, and economics from 8 years with the National Park Service, Denver Service Center, and 12 years in environmental consulting. B.S. in Outdoor Recreation and Park Administration, and M.S. in Forest Economics.
- Michael Morelli, Landscape Architect. Authored initial sections on Recreation Opportunities, and Interpretation and Educational Opportunities.

Currently Transportation Planner with NPS Washington Office of Transportation Management Program. Bachelors Degree in Environmental Design/Architecture from San Diego State University, and Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture from Louisiana State University. Over nine years with the National Park Service.

CONSULTANTS

The following people provided input to the Draft RPS/EIS; and/or the study team met with them, either individually or in group settings, to obtain information, ideas, and feedback relating to the Draft RPS/EIS.

Bureau of Land Management

- Arden Anderson, Recreation and Wilderness Specialist, Gunnison Field Office
- Allan Belt, former Uncompahgre Field Office Manager (retired)
- Craig Blacketter, former Natural Resource Specialist, Gunnison Field Office
- Joe Capodice, former Wildlife Biologist, Gunnison Field Office (retired)
- Dave Kaufmann, Associate Uncompahgre Field Office Manager
- Kenny McDaniel, Gunnison Field Office Manager
- Teresa Pfifer, Realty Specialist, Uncompahgre Field Office
- Barb Sharrow, Uncompahgre Field Office Manager
- Barry Tollefson, former Gunnison Field Office Manager (retired)
- Randall Zanon, Chief Cadastral Surveyor for Colorado, Colorado State Office

Bureau of Reclamation

- Jane Blair, General Engineer, Power Office
- Donald K. Phillips, Manager, Curecanti Field Division

Club 20

- Reeves Brown, President

Colorado Department of Natural Resources

- Shane Henry, former Assistant Director for Energy, Land and Forestry
- Tim Pollard, former Deputy Director for Policy

Colorado Department of Transportation

- Ron Alexander, Professional Engineer, Highway Operations
- Daryl Carlson, Resident Engineer, Highway Operations

Colorado Division of Wildlife

- Rick Basagoitia, District Wildlife Manager, Game Management Unit 55
- James Guthrie, Financial Initiatives Program Manager
- Doug Homan, District Wildlife Manager, Game Management Unit 63
- Jeff Oulton, District Wildlife Manager, Game Management Unit 54
- Tom Spezze, Southwest Regional Manager
- Bob Towry, former Habitat Section Supervisor (Lands, Grants, Awards, and Realty)
- J Wenum, Gunnison Area Manager
- Jim Young, former Gunnison Area Manager (retired)

Colorado Governor's Office

- Theresa Sauer, former Policy Analyst
- John Swartout, former Senior Policy Analyst

Colorado River Energy Distributors Association

- Leslie James, Executive Director

Colorado State Representatives

- Kay Alexander, former Representative, District 58
- Carl Miller, former Representative, District 56
- Gregg Rippy, former Representative, District 61

Colorado State Senators

- Lewis Entz, former Senator, District 5
- Jim Isgar, Senator, District 6
- Jack Taylor, Senator, District 8

Department of the Interior

- Judge Craig Manson, former Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Gunnison County

- Perry Anderson, former County Commissioner
- Hap Channel, County Commissioner
- John Devore, former County Manager
- Fred Field, former County Commissioner
- Jeff Guy, GIS Coordinator
- Dave Michaelson, former County Long Range Planner
- Mike Pelletier, County Long Range Planner
- Shannon Sprott, Planning Technician
- Neal Starkebaum, Assistant Director of Planning
- Jim Starr, County Commissioner (Chairperson)
- Paula Swenson, County Commissioner

Montrose County

- Susan Bronson, former Senior Planner
- Rick Gibbons, former County Planner
- Betsy Hale, former County Commissioner
- Joe Kerby, County Manager
- Leo Large, former County Commissioner
- Dave Ubell, former County Commissioner
- Steve White, Land Use Director

National Park Service – Curecanti NRA/ Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP

- Linda Alick, Chief Ranger
- Sarah Beetch, former GIS Cartographic Technician
- Danguole Bockus, Ecologist
- Joanie Budzileni, former Blue Mesa District Interpretive Specialist
- Jerry Burgess, former Facility Manager
- Myron Chase, former Resource Management Specialist
- Bob Cornelius, former Black Canyon District Ranger
- Michael Dale, Hydrologist
- Anna Marie Fender, former Interim Superintendent
- Schelle Frye, former Administrative Officer and Concessions Officer
- Don Hill, former Chief of Interpretation
- BJ Johnson, Outdoor Recreation Planner
- Ned Kelleher, former Blue Mesa District Ranger
- Matt Malick, Aquatic Ecologist
- Bill Putre, former Safety Officer
- Steve Riley, former Facility Manager
- Kinsey Shilling, former Blue Mesa District Ranger

- Paul Zaenger, Black Canyon District Interpretive Specialist
- Phil Zichterman, Chief, Interpretation, Education, and Technology

National Park Service – Intermountain Regional Office, Denver

- Kristin Cypher, former Cultural Landscape Architect
- James Doyle, Public Affairs Specialist
- Theresa Ely, GIS Program Manager
- Ron Everhart, former Intermountain Region Colorado State Director
- Clayton Frazier, Professional Land Surveyor
- Wayne Gardner, former Chief of Planning and Environmental Quality
- Sayre Hutchison, Architect
- Tom Keohan, Historical Landscape Architect/Historical Architect
- Lori Kinser, Visual Arts, Publications Specialist
- Christine Landrum, Historian
- Vicki Magnis, former GIS Specialist
- Steve Martin, former Regional Director
- Hugh Osborne, Community Planner with Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
- Nancy Shock, GIS Specialist
- Mike Snyder, Regional Director
- Chris Turk, Regional Environmental Quality Coordinator
- Karen Wade, former Regional Director

National Park Service – Intermountain Regional Office, Santa Fe

- Katherine Cooper, former Realty Specialist
- Wyoma Hansen, Realty Specialist
- Susan Jordan, Realty Specialist

- Barbara Sulhoff, former Chief, Land Resources Program Center
- Glenna Vigil, Chief, Land Resources Program Center

National Park Service – Other

- Tim Connors, Geologist, Washington Office - Denver
- John Howard, Superintendent, Antietam National Battlefield
- Gary Johnson, Chief of Planning, Blue Ridge Parkway
- Mark Wondzell, Hydrologist, Water Resources Division – Fort Collins

The Nature Conservancy

- David Gann, Southwest Colorado Program Manager
- Betsy Neely, Director of Conservation Planning

Northern Ute American Indian Tribe

NOTE: The study team met with the following individuals. However, with the exception of Betsy Chapoose and Clifford Duncan, they should not be considered to have been designated by their tribe to be official consultation representatives.

- Smiley Arrowchis, Tribal Member
- Betsy Chapoose, Cultural Rights and Protection Director
- Clifford Duncan, NAGPRA/TCP Consultant
- Luke Duncan, Tribal Member
- Roland McCook, former Chairman
- Dana West, Tribal Member

Southern Ute American Indian Tribe

NOTE: The study team met with the following individuals. However, they should not be considered to have been designated by their tribe to be official consultation representatives.

- Pearl Casias, former Vice-Chairperson

- Neil Cloud, NAGPRA Coordinator
- Clement Frost, Chairman
- James Olgin, former Council Member

The Trust for Public Land

- Woody Beardsley, Project Manager
- Nissa Maddox, Program Associate
- Douglas Robotham, Colorado State Director

Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association

- Mark Catlin, General Manager
- Jim Hokit, former General Manager

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

- John Kleopfer, former Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Western Colorado Ecological Services Field Office, Grand Junction
- David McGillivray, Chief, Division of Federal Aid, Migratory Birds and State Programs, Denver

U.S. Forest Service

- Dave Bradford, Rangeland Specialist, Paonia Ranger District
- Levi Broyles, District Ranger, Paonia Ranger District
- Jim Dawson, District Ranger, Gunnison Ranger District
- Mark Hatcher, Range Watershed Specialist, Gunnison Ranger District
- Carmine Lockwood, Planning Staff Officer, Gunnison, Grand Mesa, and Uncompahgre National Forests (GMUG)
- Steve Marquardt, Renewable Resources Staff Officer
- Justin McConkey, Range Technician, Paonia Ranger District
- Charlie Richmond, Forest Supervisor, GMUG

- Nancy Schwieger, Lands Staff, Paonia Ranger District
- Susan Spear, former District Ranger, Paonia Ranger District
- Bob Storch, former Forest Supervisor, GMUG
- Corey Wong, Public Service Staff Officer, GMUG

U.S. Representative Scott McInnis's Office

- Leslie Baker, former Constituent Services Caseworker
- David Ludlam, former Staff Assistant
- Scott McInnis, former U.S. Representative
- Melissa Simpson, former Senior Legislative Assistant

U.S. Representative John Salazar's Office

- Richard Baca, Northwest Regional Director
- John Whitney, Southwest Regional Director

U.S. Senator Wayne Allard's Office

- Cory Gardner, General Counsel
- Andrew Merritt, State Director
- Richard Poole, Area Director
- Derek Wagner, Staff Assistant

U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell's Office

- James Doyle, former Communications Director
- Frank Fannon, former Senior Legislative Assistant
- Keith Johnson, former District Director
- Ginnie Kotnick, former Chief of Staff
- George Rossman, former District Director

U.S. Senator Ken Salazar's Office

- Trudy Kareus, Northwest Regional Director

Ute Indian Museum

- CJ Brafford, Director

Ute Mountain Ute American Indian Tribe

NOTE: The study team met with the following individuals. However, they should not be considered to have been designated by their tribe to be official consultation representatives.

- Harold Cuthair, Tribal Member
- Manuel Heart, Tribal Councilman

Western Area Power Administration

- C. Shane Collins, Environmental Protection Specialist
- Susan Starceovich, Realty Specialist, Land Management
- Ron Turley, Field Maintenance Manager, Montrose

Other

Please refer to the lists of meetings with public agencies and officials, private groups and individuals, and American Indian tribes identified earlier in this Consultation and Coordination chapter.

