

## Appendix F: Cultural Resource Comments

### F.1 Native American Consultation

The Board initiated and followed a Tribal Consultation Plan for involving the local Native American tribes represented in the corridor in the EIS process. A copy of this plan is included in Appendix C, Native American Consultation. Although the Native American tribes represented in Utah were included in all public and agency scoping efforts, the Board made an additional effort to involve the tribes in the EIS process.

Utah is home to five federally recognized Native American tribes: the Ute, Paiute, Goshute, Shoshoni, and Navajo. The Paiutes of southern Utah are divided into five bands: the Kanosh Band, the Koosharem Band, the Indian Peaks Band, the Cedar City Band, and the Shivwits Band. The Goshute Tribe of northwestern Utah is divided into two groups: the Skull Valley Band and the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation. In addition, the Hopi tribe of Arizona claims portions of Utah as part of their ancestral homelands and therefore were considered in the consultation process. A list of tribal contacts for this project is included in Appendix C of the Scoping Report, Native American Consultation.

Below is a detailed list of coordination efforts used to involve the tribes in the CURP EIS process.

- Tribal contacts were mailed letters of invitation to attend the agency scoping meeting on 21 May 2003.
  - Invitations were mailed on 7 May 2003.
- Project representatives invited the tribes to attend a drive-through of potential rail corridor alignments on 20 May 2003.
  - Phone calls were made to the tribal points-of-contact the week of 12 May 2003 inviting them to the drive-through and reminding them about the agency scoping meeting.
  - Follow-up letters and a tour itinerary were sent to the tribes on 14 May 2003.
- The tribes were sent individual letters as well as project newsletters inviting them to the public scoping meetings and requesting their input on identifying potentially sensitive environmental and cultural areas in the Central Utah Rail corridor.
  - Letters were sent on 8 October 2003.
  - Newsletters were sent on 14 October 2003.

- Follow-up phone calls to the tribes were made on 14 October 2003 to make sure that the tribes were aware of the public scoping meetings and again requesting their comments regarding the project.
- A letter and maps were sent upon request to the Goshute Tribe on 7 January 2004.
- Follow-up calls were made to the Goshute tribe between 8 January 2004 and 14 January 2004.

Copies of the communications described above are included in Appendix C, Native American Consultation. A brief summary of the comments is included in Section F.2, Agency and Native American Comments. Comments received from the tribes are summarized in Appendix A, Agency and Public Scoping Summary Report.

## **F.2 Agency and Native American Comments**

Several agencies, including Native American tribes, submitted comments pertinent to various resources in the Central Utah Rail project area.

Agency and Tribal comments were received by the following methods:

- Comment forms at the public meetings (2)
- E-mail (6)
- Mail (29)

A summary of the most common comments submitted by the responding agencies is provided below. A summary of all comments received by resource area is included in Section Appendix A, Agency and Public Scoping Summary Report.

- The Hopi Tribe requested consultation on cultural findings and potential impacts and requested a copy of the archaeological survey.
- The Utah State Historical Society alerted the project team that the potential effects on cultural resources in this corridor are high.
- The Utah Department of Environmental Quality expressed concerns for the agricultural interests in the corridor and described potential wetland areas near Chicken Creek Reservoir and drinking water source protection zones in the area.
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) identified Sevier and Sanpete Counties as National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) communities.
- The Uinta National Forest explained that the national forest east of Levan is administered by the Manti-LaSal National Forest.
- Sunrise Engineering wrote on behalf of the Town of Redmond to identify concerns regarding two wells and the drinking water source protection zone that might extend across the proposed railroad route.

- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) questioned potential impacts to several specific resources in the corridor ranging from land use to threatened and endangered species. BLM confirmed that agency representatives would attend the agency scoping meeting on 21 May 2003.
- The Natural Resources Conservation Service described concerns regarding hydric (wet) soils east of Chicken Creek Reservoir, Roshe Springs, and Saltair.
- Gunnison City Corporation expressed support for the project.
- The Utah Department of Wildlife Resources detailed sensitive, threatened, and endangered species encountered in the corridor and expressed concern for other wildlife habitat throughout the area.
- The Utah Farm Bureau questioned the impacts associated with possible segmentation of farmland, wetland mitigation, the right-of-way process, and compensation available for potential impacts.
- The Ute Indian Tribe said that they would try to send a representative to the 21 May 2003 meeting.
- The Utah State Division of Parks and Recreation expressed concerns about the proximity of the proposed rail line to the entrance of the Painted Rocks Campground Park and detailed wetlands to the south of the Painted Rocks area. They requested more information about the proposed alignment.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service supported the alternative with the least adverse impacts to fish and wildlife. They confirmed that two representatives would attend the agency scoping meeting on 21 May 2003.

A summary of these comments by resource area is included in Appendix A Agency and Public Scoping Summary Report.

Cultural Resource coordination is continuous throughout the EIS process. Coordination with tribes, State Historic Preservation Office, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs will continue and this appendix will be updated.

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