



**Surface Transportation Board
Uinta Basin Railway Environmental Impact Statement
Section 106 Consulting Parties Rock Art Resources
Teleconference Notes
April 29, 2020**

Meeting Participants

Surface Transportation Board (STB), Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) – Alan Tabachnick, Joshua Wayland
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) – Erin Hess
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) – Roger Bankert, Amber Koski, William Reitze, Nate Thomas
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) – Chris Secakuku
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) – John Eddins
Utah State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) – Savanna Agardy, Chris Merritt
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation (Ute Tribe) – Steve Nelson, Devin Pehrson
Utah Public Land Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) – Kris Carambeles
Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands (SITLA) – Joel Boomgarden
Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) – Danielle Schneider
Carbon County – Casey Hopes
Uintah County – Matt Cazier, Ross Watkins
Seven County Infrastructure Coalition (Coalition)
 HDR – Melissa Cano, Andrea Clayton, Catherine Dobbs, Kevin Keller
 Jones and DeMille – Brian Barton
 Venable – Amanda Crawford
 SWCA – Kelly Beck, Anne Oliver
Nine Mile Canyon Coalition – Dennis Willis
Utah Rock Art Research Association – Troy Scotter
ICF – Colleen Davis, Debi Rogers, Lauran Switzer, Mikenna Wolff

Purpose of the Meeting

- This meeting is intended for remote information sharing related to known and potential rock art sites within and adjacent to the APE for this project. OEA understands this is an important resource in the region and wanted all Consulting Parties to be able to share information and best practices.
- OEA would like to incorporate rock art data into the 106 process as much as possible without compromising the resources themselves. Confidentiality and security of resources is important. If anyone does not want to share information

with the larger group, reach out to Alan Tabachnick to set up a specific agency work session.

- Dennis Willis (Nine Mile Canyon Coalition) asked about the scope of “rock art” and whether this includes prehistoric and historic rock art as well as rock art signatures. OEA confirmed that all of these will be included in the 106 analysis.
- Savanna Agardy (Utah SHPO) noted that Utah SHPO has been moving away from the term "rock art" and using "rock imagery" instead.

Site-Specific Information Sources

- The Coalition's contractor SWCA has identified one rock imagery location during their initial reconnaissance level survey. A more detailed survey will be performed on the selected alternative at a later date.

Programmatic Agreement (PA)

- OEA is using a phased identification and evaluation approach and will develop a PA which will lay out how future surveys are handled on the selected alternative. OEA wants to get input from all Consulting Parties on the PA and particularly on the plans for future studies and field surveys.
- Kris Carambelas (PLPCO) asked whether OEA plans to revise the APE once an alternative is selected. Alan Tabachnick noted that the APE may continue to evolve throughout the process as more refined project design is presented. This point will be included in the PA.
 - For example, the APE may be revised as needed once information on visual resources and viewsheds is available.
- Nate Thomas (BLM) noted that the selected alternative may not necessarily include areas with a rock imagery. Is OEA still planning to include a whole section on rock imagery in the PA?
 - The PA will be set up to identify various resource types and will lay out plans for how each resource would be treated if it is found within or adjacent to the APE.
 - Dennis Willis (Nine Mile Canyon Coalition) noted some concerns with focusing too much on rock imagery and would rather the PA focus on what is happening on the sites as a whole.

Next Steps

- OEA suggested that this rock imagery group get together on a somewhat regular basis and asked for input on the frequency of these conversations.
 - Dennis Willis (Nine Mile Canyon Coalition) said there's not a whole lot that needs to be discussed until more surveys are done in the APEs. However, it will be important to start on the PA as soon as possible if OEA intends to incorporate it into the NEPA process. Dennis noted that a PA can sometimes take a year or more to develop.

- The Coalition's architecture and archaeology technical reports will be posted to the project website next week, redacted as necessary. These reports are provided to all Consulting Parties for informational purposes.
 - OEA will use this information to help inform their own 106 technical memo with OEA's eligibility determinations.
- OEA encouraged Consulting Parties to submit example PA sections if they have found any particularly helpful in the past. Kris Carambelas (PLPCO) suggested that Nate Thomas (BLM) may be the best resource for this information.
- Consulting Party Actions
 - If anyone wants to discuss information in a more restricted setting, reach out to Alan Tabachnick to set up a specific agency work session.
- OEA/ICF Actions
 - OEA will prepare notes from this meeting and post them to the project website.