

**HANFORD REACH NATIONAL MONUMENT
FEDERAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary: Session # 18
Wednesday, June 16, 2004
Thursday, June 17, 2004
Washington State University Tri-Cities
Consolidated Information Center, Rooms 120 & 120A
Richland, WA**

The Hanford Reach National Monument Federal Planning Advisory Committee met on Wednesday and Thursday, June 16-17, 2004 at the Washington State University Tri-Cities Consolidated Information Center in Richland, Washington.

The purpose of the meeting was to (1) hear a progress update from the Service on the planning process and environmental analysis to date; and (2) make recommendations on the Committee's preference in management action for the Hanford Reach National Monument Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP).

Wednesday, June 16, 2004

Welcome and Introductions

Greg Hughes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Designated Federal Official (DFO), Hanford Reach National Monument, opened the meeting and welcomed Committee members, the public and other attendees. Mr. Hughes briefed the Committee on the status of the re-charter process. The re-charter package is still in Washington D.C., and the Monument has had no new news on the progress of the reappointment process.

Alice Shorett, facilitator, reviewed the two day agenda, noting that the purpose of the first day's session was to hear how the Service used the Committee advice on management objectives presented in January, and hear presentations about work completed by the Planning Team on the CCP. After the presentation, the Committee will begin discussing a Committee-proposed management alternative to be presented as official advice to the Service and US Department of Energy (USDOE). On the second day, the Committee would discuss and vote on advice regarding a preferred management alternative. Ms. Shorett then used a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A) to review the history of the Committee's advice and how the Service and USDOE had used it.

Jim Watts, Committee Chair, reviewed the public comment process and reminded those making public comment that there was a five-minute time limit. He stated that the public comment period was scheduled to immediately follow the opening of the meeting and Committee business. A public comment sheet was available at the sign in table for those interested in giving comment. He also reviewed the Committee's purpose and charter.

Meeting Minutes from Session #17

Mr. Watts asked the Committee for any changes to the summary from Session #17 as drafted. The Committee approved a motion to adopt the meeting summary as drafted.

Action: Committee members adopted the meeting summary from Session #17 as drafted.

Progress Update on Planning Activities and Updated Management Units

Mike Marxen, Service Planner, reviewed the information in the Committee packets. He encouraged everyone to read all the documents, and identified reference documents for presentations throughout the meeting. During presentations, he asked Committee members to write any questions down on paper so that they could be answered after all presentations were made.

Sensitive Areas Mapping

Dave Smith then addressed the Committee with information on sensitive areas on the Monument, and the mapping completed to consolidate all the information the Service has collected to date. Using a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment B), he told the story of where the Planning Team has been and where they are going in collecting necessary information for review in the management plan. The Service has used available information and the collective knowledge of Native Americans, local governments, other agencies, organizations and information gathered through the three public planning workshops.

Sensitive plant communities are the foundation of all the shrub-steppe plant communities in the Columbia Basin. They are large intact communities that could be significantly damaged or lost through wildfire occurrences. If there were significant disturbance within these communities it would lead to rapid spread of non-native invasive species through the habitat. He reviewed several maps distributed to the Committee members.

Mr. Smith discussed the map of sensitive plant communities that has been derived from recently completed vegetation inventories on the Monument and the sensitive wildlife habitat map that came from Washington Natural Heritage Program data. The wildlife habitat includes the river, breeding and over-wintering environments. The overlays show an excellent correlation between plant communities and sensitive habitats. The mapping demonstrates the need for seasonal closures to protect wildlife, and an area of focus for restoration activities to improve habitat.

Mr. Smith then showed an overlay of noxious weeds on the sensitive plant communities. He stated that next to fire, noxious weeds are the largest threat to biodiversity on the Monument. This map demonstrates the importance of consideration for siting nodes of activity on the Monument. The last map showed all the information overlaid on the sensitive plant communities. In addition to public comment and Committee advice, this mapping information helped the Service derive new management units.

Updated Management Units

Mr. Smith then explained the methodology used in updating the boundaries for the management units. The Service has mapped five management units: Ringold, Wahluke, Saddle Mountain, Columbia River and Rattlesnake.

The Ringold Unit extends from the hatchery up to the parking lot #8. At 3100 acres in size, it includes an area heavily impacted by years of use. This area is low in ecological integrity as compared to the other management units.

The Wahluke Unit includes all the lands south of Highway 24, but north of the River and Ringold Unit. At 57,000 acres in size, there are currently over 28,000 acres open to the public. This is the last intact shrub-steppe plant community remaining in the Saddle Mountain range. This unit is moderate on the scale of reclamation opportunities. Some of the lands may recover over time with proper management, while some of them may never recover.

The Saddle Mountain Unit, at 24,000 acres, includes all the lands north of Highway 24. From a law enforcement, public perception and ease of understanding standpoint, the boundary was drawn using the road. This unit is not as diverse as the other management units, but still has some very high quality shrub-steppe habitat. Restoration activities on this unit would focus on higher quality plant associations as a moderate priority. Lower successional lands would require more time and money.

The Columbia River Unit encompasses 30,300 acres and includes the islands. It has a wealth of resources tied to Native American uses, and geological/paleontological features. The boundaries of the unit coincide with the Department of Interior finding that this habitat is eligible and suitable for designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic River System. This unit is moderate to high in priority for restoration activities.

The Rattlesnake Unit covers 81,100 acres on the Monument, and includes the Arid Lands Ecology (ALE) Reserve and McGee Ranch. This unit is home to 1550 recorded species, forty-three of them new to science, and is the largest intact shrub-steppe habitat remaining in the Columbia Basin ecoregion. The biggest threats to this unit are fire and cheat grass. This area is the highest priority for restoration activities.

Cultural and Historical Resources

Jenna Gaston continued the presentation with information regarding sensitive cultural resources on the Monument lands. There are a lot of research opportunities on the Monument. Significant geologic features make the Monument lands unique, and help define management unit boundaries. Similarly, the wealth of cultural resources on the lands is extraordinary and is equally protected in the Monument Proclamation. However, unlike some biological resources, cultural objects are non-renewable resources.

Less than 5% of the Monument has been surveyed, although 645 pre- and post-contact sites have been identified, including some from the World War II and Cold War eras. Pre-contact sites vary from pithouse villages and resource procurement areas to vision quests and burial cairns. The Service continues to work with various entities and the Native American Tribes to identify sites and assemble data.

Due to limitations on public disclosure of cultural resource data, no maps have been developed showing existing cultural resource sites. However, specific site locations and cultural resource sensitivity have been factored into alternatives development. Tribal concerns and analysis of the existing areas will be a part of the on-going government-to-government consultation process.

Ms. Gaston indicated that the River Unit has about half the cultural resource sites on the Monument, and is an important area to many Native Americans today. It also contains five of

the seven National Register of Historic Places identified on Monument lands. The unit contains the most diversity of pre- and post-contact sites. Increased use of the river will have a direct effect on the sites, and could lead to increased vandalism or looting.

During the Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation activities on the ALE (now part of Rattlesnake Unit), the Service took the opportunity to survey the area for cultural resources and found 70 new, mostly post-contact sites within 2500 acres. This unit has the second-highest number of cultural resource sites at 221. The Rattlesnake unit also is most significant as a Traditional Cultural Property containing numerous vision quest sites. It is a hunting and gathering ground for foods and medicines of major significance. The only known petroglyph on the Monument was recently found on this unit. The potential to yield more diverse sites and the significance of the known cultural resources both were factors in development of the alternatives.

The Wahluke unit has twenty-six, mostly post-contact sites. These include the White Bluffs road, homestead and military sites. Pre-contact sites are limited primarily due to the lack of surveys and the lower potential for major sites farther from sources of water. Similar findings have occurred on the Saddle Mountain unit. Pre-contact sites include the Traditional Cultural Property, vision quest cairns and lithic quarries on the ridge. Post-contact sites on the flat include homestead and Cold War facilities. The Ringold unit has eight recorded sites primarily of pre-contact camps and resources stations. Post-contact sites include homesteads. Bountiful interpretation and education opportunities exist for experiencing cultural resources through hiking, auto tours and kiosks.

Presentation on Possible Activities in Each Management Unit By Alternative

Paula Call continued addressing the Committee by presenting information on possible activities that could occur on the Monument. To begin, the Planning Team made some planning assumptions. First, the three main aspects of public use the plan will determine are what activities will take place, where they will take place (e.g. “nodes of activity”), and under what conditions they will take place. The Service is approaching the CCP from a “landscape scale,” that builds the foundation and sets the stage for step down management plans. This Plan, therefore, will not deal with facility planning and site development.

Second, prior to implementing any new visitor use, inventories must be adequate, monitoring plans must be ready to implement, and staff must be in place. Changes will not occur immediately, but will be phased-in over time.

Third, the Service anticipates using basic public use management tools Monument-wide. These include improved site design, seasonal restrictions, area closures, and designated travel routes for resource protection and better visitor understanding consistent with site safety and security concerns.

Fourth, every unit has the potential to allow for approved research projects and Service-led activities, including those units that are closed. Fifth, partnerships will be pursued throughout the life of the planning period. There are some excellent opportunities on all sides of the Monument to provide quality use and access. Lastly, the Visitor Center should make it easy for visitors to access information about the Monument, and encourage people to visit the Monument.

Using wall maps and referencing Committee packets, Ms. Call then described each draft management alternative. Each of these alternatives describes a situation for management action at some point within the fifteen year time period.

Alternative A

The first, Alternative A is the status quo, or no-action alternative, and reflects the existing management situation the Service inherited when it accepted management responsibility of the Monument. Currently, there are just over 70,000 acres open to the public. An analysis of current, best available data and field observations have highlighted some specific areas on the Monument where the Service is proposing substantial management changes to ensure that it is protecting resources. The Planning Team has written objectives to take care of those areas in each CCP alternative. Activities currently occurring include fishing, hunting, wildlife observation, photography, and environmental education.

Alternative B

Alternative B places maximum emphasis on restoring Monument lands and resources that have been impacted by wildfire, grazing, cultural site looting, and other disturbances over the decades. Public use and education is still a high priority, but nodes of activity are fewer and farther between than the other action alternatives. Ms. Call covered some of the potential activities that the Service will analyze under this alternative. Under Alternative B, much of the land north of the river, approximately 68,000 acres, would be open for some level of public use and access.

Alternative C

Alternative C places an emphasis on consciously managing for large, undeveloped areas on the Monument by concentrating development and nodes of activity to the extent possible and locating them along highway corridors and Monument entrance zones. This alternative retains the natural character of the landscape and promotes opportunities for undisturbed natural processes and for solitude in the backcountry zones of the Monument. Approximately 108,000 acres could be open for some level of public use and access.

Alternative D

Alternative D places a high priority on getting people out on the landscape of the Monument with more nodes of activity, developed facilities and more acres open to compatible uses than the other alternatives. Approximately 111,000 acres would be open for some level of public use and access.

Presentation on Impacts Analysis By Alternative

Dave Smith finished addressing the Committee with presentation material by covering the environmental impacts analysis. He presented two examples of impacts analysis through two objective statements. Mr. Smith explained how the Planning Team did the impacts analysis by going into the field and reviewing the objectives on the land. The Team addressed whether it was a viable option to consider given the resources, and assessed what the impacts may be to the environment.

The Planning Team identified seventeen “attributes” that helped them assess any impacts to the Monument’s resources. To assist in the example, Mr. Smith picked four attributes – fire, weeds, cultural sites and wildlife observation/photography – to illustrate the impacts analysis the Team is conducting for the Plan. A positive impact on an attribute means an expected benefit to the attribute. Conversely, a negative impact means an expected detriment to an attribute.

The first example, Objective 1_8, covers shrub-steppe restoration. Under current management, the Service restores variable acreage annually as funds are available. Under Alternative B, they would restore 6000, under Alternative C 4000, and under Alternative D 2000 acres annually. In this scenario, restoration activities would either positively impact or have no impact on the four example attributes.

Paula Call described the second example using Objective 7_14 dealing with a variety of hiking opportunities that would include cross-country and developed interpretive trails. Using the same four attributes, she covered the potential impacts to these attributes. Hiking would negatively impact all the attributes under each of the alternatives in this example, with the exception of Alternative A.

Steve Wisness from the USDOE completed the presentation on maps and information by adding information with respect to the emergency dose levels from Central Hanford, and how those factors affect management decisions.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Discussing and Developing Recommendation On Alternatives As Presented

After lunch, the Committee reconvened to hear answers to the questions they wrote down throughout the presentations. The Service Planning Team responded to eighty-five questions written down by the Committee. After responding to all questions, Mr. Watts asked Ms. Shorett to guide the Committee through a preliminary straw poll, and discussion on the alternatives.

Ms. Shorett referred the Committee to the straw poll in their packets. The preliminary poll would be used as a temperature gauge by each Committee seat to understand where the Committee stands on a preferred alternative. She asked each seat to pick one alternative, and answer the question “What alternative best meets the values of importance to the community for the final management plan, and why?” Each seat was also to indicate what kept them from choosing one of the other three alternatives. Results of the preliminary straw poll placed three in favor of Alternative B, four in favor of Alternative C, and six in favor of Alternative D.

The Committee finished the day by discussing the results of the straw poll. The focus of the discussion was on the issues that kept each seat from picking one of the three other alternatives. This discussion was the basis for Thursday’s meeting.

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Greg Hughes, DFO, opened the meeting for the second day. Jim Watts, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order. Mr. Watts described the meeting as being a key moment for the Committee; members have worked hard to learn about the Monument and its resources, leading to the vote to be taken today on the Committee's preferred management alternative.

Agenda Review

Alice Shorett reviewed the agenda for the remainder of Committee session #18. The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussions and take a vote on advice regarding the Committee's preferred management alternative. There was also an opportunity for public comment. Ms. Shorett reviewed with the Committee groundrules around decision-making so that everyone was clear how decisions would be made in the event the Committee could not reach consensus.

Jim Watts, Committee Chair, reviewed the public comment process and reminded those making public comment that there was a five-minute time limit. He stated that the public comment period was scheduled to immediately follow the opening of the meeting and Committee business. A public comment sheet was available at the sign in table for those interested in giving comment. He also reviewed the Committee's purpose and charter.

Public Comment

Mot Hedges from Energy Northwest addressed the Committee. Energy Northwest has a ten-mile emergency radius that encompasses the south shore boat launches, part of the Ringold area, and even some of the ALE reserve. This all requires plans to evacuate the public in the event of an emergency. Adding any new facilities in these zones would make logistics for evacuation more difficult. In addition, they have several communications towers on top of Rattlesnake Mountain that need to be considered when discussing opening the summit to public access. They have several monitoring stations along the river, and any free and unrestricted access to the river would present some security concerns to the pump house for their facilities.

Continued Discussion on Committee's Preferred Alternative

Alice Shorett reviewed with the Committee the discussion from yesterday. She asked the Committee to review the draft document for discussion in front of them. This is a result of additional work after the meeting yesterday to continue reconciling any differences the majority opinion had in seeking consensus on a preferred alternative.

Using a base map, Eric Gerber, scientific/academic seat, summarized the discussion from yesterday evening for the Committee, highlighting the middle ground the group worked on over the evening. Some of those highlights include the following:

Overriding Principles

The Committee discussion highlighted some overriding principles the Service should consider throughout all alternatives:

- Use existing roads and trails where possible so long as there is no potential impact to sensitive areas.
- Continue looking longer into the future in making management decisions than the fifteen-year life of the Plan.

- Focus nodes of access and concentrate camping around these nodes.

Majority Opinion

The majority of the Committee focused on providing more controlled public use and access, as represented in Alternatives C and D.

A modified Alternative C was crafted to meet the interests of members in the majority, using Alternative C as a basis. The modified Alternative C keeps the philosophy of concentrating access to the periphery of the Monument and preserving the Monument's resources. The following changes were suggested to the base map for Alternative C:

- *Sand Dunes*: Close the west half of the dunes to public access and leave the east half open, but controlled.
- *White Bluffs Boat Launch*: Phase-out the closing of this launch in the "heart of the Monument." Non-motorized boat take-out options should be retained at this spot.
- *Saddle Mountain Overlook*: Provide access to the summit, protects sensitive species and provides access to adjacent public lands. Seasonal use restrictions may be the most appropriate way to protect the sensitive plant species, or permanent closure of specific areas on the summit.
- *North Shore of Columbia River*: Make the north shore of the River Corridor "open, but controlled" access.
- *Camping in Vernita Area*: Add overnight camping at the Vernita area and provide "open, but controlled" access at the Riverlands.
- *Rattlesnake Unit*: Look into the possibility of a loop trail in the McGee Ranch area. Retain the observatory with the condition that it is for remote access use only. If a summit trail were considered using existing roads, make it a permit-only trail.

Minority Opinion

A minority of the Committee preferred Alternative B due to potential impacts from public use in the other alternatives. The other alternatives represented too much long-term planning that would be resource intensive. The Native American seat felt Alternatives C and D were too aggressive in providing public use and access. He encouraged the Service and the Committee to look generations into the future and visualize the impact public use might have on the valuable resources in the Monument lands. Though the resources were preserved due to unusual circumstances, they have been preserved because everyone was shut out of the lands, including Native Americans.

With respect to existing facilities, there was some concern that public safety and facility security may not be fully addressed in Alternatives C and D. There was question as to the process which irrigation and utility operation and maintenance needs are considered in siting public use and access facilities. The Utility/Irrigation seat suggested the possibility of adding an attribute to assess the various alternatives on valid existing rights.

Committee Preferred Alternative

The Committee discussed the amendments to Alternative C described above. After lengthy discussion, a motion was approved to adopt all of Alternative C with amendments as the Committee's preferred alternative. A vote was taken on the motion as follows:

- 12 FOR: State, Counties, Cities, Economic Development, K-12 Education, Utilities/Irrigation, Environment/Conservation, Outdoor Recreation, Scientific/Academic (3 seats), and Public-at-large
- 0 AGAINST: none
- 1 ABSTAIN: Native American

The following overriding principles and specific modifications were suggested and approved by the Committee as advice to the Service and Department of Energy.

Overriding Principles

- Use existing roads and trails where possible so long as there is no potential impact to sensitive areas.
- Describe the process of consultation with Tribes and utility/irrigation districts to assure parties with valid existing rights are consulted prior to making management decisions.
- The Service should continue looking longer into the future in making management decisions than the fifteen-year life of the Plan.
- Focus nodes of access and concentrate activities around these nodes on the Monument.
- Population control of all wildlife should be included in all alternatives.

Specific Modifications

- *Sand Dunes*: Close the West half of the dunes to public access and leave the East half open, but controlled.
- *Boat Launches*: In the "heart of the Monument," keep access open to non-motorized boat take-out options, but close the boat launch. Analyze in a step-down management plan possible locations for boats launching, including a review of the impacts to existing resources. Phase-in the closing of the White Bluffs boat launch as sites to the north and the south are developed or improved.
- *Saddle Mountain Overlook*: Provide access to the summit, protect sensitive species and provide access to adjacent public lands. Seasonal use restrictions may be the most appropriate way to protect the sensitive plant species, or permanent closure of specific areas on the summit.
- *North Shore of Columbia River*: Make the North shore of the River Corridor "open, but controlled" access.
- *Camping in Vernita Area*: Add overnight camping at the Vernita area and provide open, but controlled access at the Riverlands.
- *Rattlesnake Unit*: Look into the possibility of a loop trail in the McGee Ranch area. Retain the observatory with the condition that it is for remote access use only. If a summit trail were considered using existing roads, make it a permit-only trail.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to adopt all of Alternative C, with amendments, as the Committee's preferred alternative. The Committee will send a letter of recommendation with these specific amendments and caveats to the Service and Department of Energy.

Summary and Next Steps

Mr. Watts asked Ms. Shorett to summarize the meeting proceedings. Ms. Shorett summarized the Committee discussion regarding a Committee-proposed alternative. The Committee selected all of Alternative C, with the Committee's suggested amendments as its preferred alternative. Triangle will draft a letter from the Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, highlighting the specific amendments made to Alternative C, and additional caveats.

Mr. Watts suggested that the Service would like to have at least two more meetings of the Committee prior to its sunset date in January 2005. One of those meetings could be reserved for advice on appropriate ways to take the draft Plan to the public, and on continuing discussions regarding long-term management of the elk herd on Monument lands.

Mr. Hughes adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Approved by:

Greg Hughes, DFO

Jim Watts, Chair

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Committee Seat	Member	Alternate
K-12 Education	Karen Wieda	
Cities	Bob Thompson	<i>vacant</i>
Conservation/Environmental	Rick Leumont	Mike Lilga
Counties	Leo Bowman	
Economic Development	Jim Watts	Harold Heacock
Outdoor Recreation	Rich Steele	
Public-at-Large	Kris Watkins	
Scientific/Academic	Michele Gerber	Eric Gerber
	David Geist	
	Gene Schreckhise	<i>vacant</i>
State	Jeff Tayer	Ron Skinnarland
Native American	Rex Buck	<i>vacant</i>
Utilities/Irrigation	Nancy Craig	<i>vacant</i>
Designated Federal Official	Greg Hughes	

Participants and Invited Speakers

U.S. Department of Energy	Steve Wisness
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Dan Haas
	David Smith
	Paula Call
	Mike Marxen
	Jenna Gaston

Facilitators

Triangle Associates, Inc.	Alice Shorett	Derek Van Marter
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Meeting Support

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Jennifer Boles
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Observers

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Ron Crouse
	Jenny Barnett
	Michael Ritter
U.S. Department of Energy	Dana Ward
	Alex Teimouri
	Tom Ferns
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Aimee Kinney
Yakama Nation	Jay McConnaghy
CTUIR	Althea Wolf
	Ashleigh Wolf
BPA	Mary Hollen
	Don Rose
PNNL	Janice Parthree

*Hanford Reach National Monument
Federal Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary*

Final
June 16-17, 2004

Washington State Dept of Fish & Wildlife
Benton County

Mike Livingston
Adam Fyall
Phil Mees

Grant County
Energy Northwest
Backcountry Horsemen of WA
Richland Rod and Gun Club
KNDU-TV

Hector Torres
Mot Hedges
Linda Smith
Eugene Van Liew
Trevor Wright
Korenza Burris

KVEW
NW Public Radio
Tri-City Herald
Public

Jessica Swain
Rachael McDonald
Annette Cary
Maynard Plahuta

DISTRIBUTED MATERIALS

Committee's Packet of Materials

Meeting Agenda (June 16-17, 2004)
Draft Meeting Summary: Session #17 (February 25, 2004)
Letter from Project Leader Greg Hughes to FAC Members
Comprehensive Conservation Plan Management Units
Goal-by-goal Comparison Across Alternatives
GIS Maps of Sensitive Areas and Management Units
Alternatives Maps
Safety Basis Dose Constraints Map
Environmental Impacts Across Alternatives
Committee Advice Letters
Refuge Update (March/April 2004)

Committee Recommendation on Management Action

Hanford Reach National Monument
Federal Planning Advisory Committee

June 16-17, 2004

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History

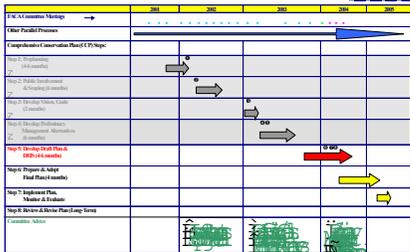
- Chartered January 2001
- Monument lands tour June 2001
- One year of background and informational material
- Re-chartered January 2003
- 18th meeting today



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Timeline

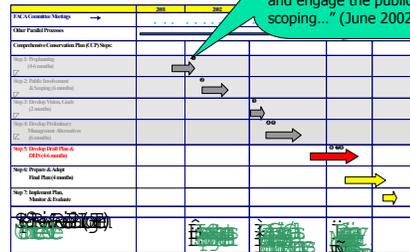
Hanford Reach National Monument
Federal Planning Advisory Committee



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Hanford Reach National Monument
Federal Planning Advisory Committee

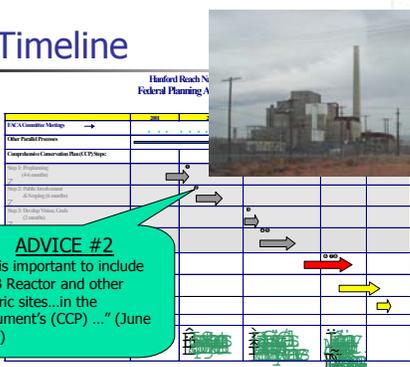


ADVICE #1
"...approved reports on issues and opportunities for the Service to use to educate and engage the public in scoping..." (June 2002)

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Hanford Reach National Monument
Federal Planning Advisory Committee

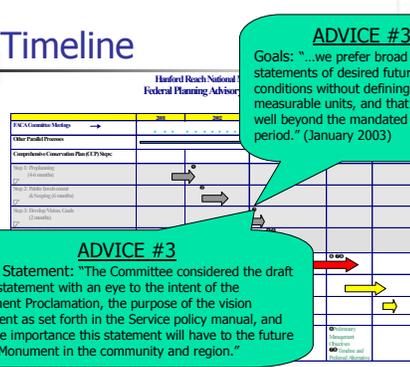


ADVICE #2
"...it is important to include the B Reactor and other historic sites...in the Monument's (CCP) ..." (June 2002)

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Hanford Reach National Monument
Federal Planning Advisory Committee



ADVICE #3
Goals: "...we prefer broad statements of desired future conditions without defining measurable units, and that extend well beyond the mandated 15-year period." (January 2003)

ADVICE #3
Vision Statement: "The Committee considered the draft vision statement with an eye to the intent of the Monument Proclamation, the purpose of the vision statement as set forth in the Service policy manual, and with the importance this statement will have to the future of the Monument in the community and region."

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Timeline

ADVICE #4
 "In shaping the draft management alternatives...the Committee focused on the following three recommendations:
 1. Use geography as opposed to a 'one size fits all' strategy....This requires...thorough resource mapping to determine how many management units are needed.
 2. Incorporate [I/E] into all alternatives.
 3. Use Monument resources to shape the application of an alternative on the Monument." (June 2003)

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ADVICE #5
 "The Committee concludes that the span of the White Bluffs landslide issue is much broader than the Hanford Reach National Monument alone.... In giving this advice, the Committee notes the urgency of moving forward on this highly important issue." (June 2003)

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ADVICE #6
 "In general, the Committee's focus was on assessing whether the range of objectives was consistent with the range of alternatives." (January 2004)

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ADVICE #7
 "For effective use of the Service's and Committee's time, the Service should focus on developing the Draft CCP/EIS and bring public comments back to the Committee for advice on 'reconciling' the remaining issues, as per the Committee charter." (March 2004)

ADVICE #8
 "Lacking any new information since developing the objective statements, the Committee would like to postpone developing a proposed management alternative until all necessary information is collected and analyzed." (March 2004)

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Timeline

ADVICE #9

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Session #18 Agenda

<p>Wednesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress Update on Planning Activities and Management Units Possible Activities in Each Management Unit by Alternative Impacts Analysis by Alternative Discussing and Developing Recommendation on Alternatives 	<p>Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued Discussion on Recommendation Official Vote on Recommendation
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Alternatives Grounding

- In addition to CEQ/NEPA requirements, all alternatives must have the following components:
 - Protective of Proclamation Resources
 - Within existing regulatory framework of the Service
 - Realistic with regard to existing budget and resource constraints

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Committee Assignment

- Discuss material presented today
- Ask clarifying questions
- Focus on community values and preference for management action
- Provide advice on Committee's preferred alternative

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Committee Exercise

- Quick recap/clarifying questions (15 minutes)
- Question: What alternative best meets the values of importance to the community for the final management plan, and why?
- "Taking the Temperature" Straw Poll by Seat (20 minutes)
- Summary of Preliminary Poll (5 minutes)
- Discussion

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Committee Exercise

- Quick recap/clarifying questions (15 minutes)
- Discussion (one hour)
- Question: What alternative best meets the values of importance to the community for the final management plan, and why?
- "Taking the Temperature" Straw Poll By Seat (20 minutes)
- Summary of Preliminary Poll (5 minutes)

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Summary Poll Results

ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	3	4	6

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Results

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Voting on Recommendation



OPTION 1: Consensus

- What are the remaining topics of concern?

OPTION 2: Majority

- Of the majority, are there any particular topics of concern?
- Of the minority, what issues informed your decision?

**Federal Advisory
Committee**
June 16-17, 2004
HRNM Comprehensive
Conservation Plan Update



PLEASE!!!!



**SENSITIVE PLANT
COMMUNITIES ARE:**

- Foundation shrub-steppe plant communities of the Columbia Basin
 - Significantly diminished throughout their range
 - Impacted by past and present management actions
 - Serve as important habitat for resident and migratory wildlife
 - Once wide-spread limited in scope within basin, region and globally



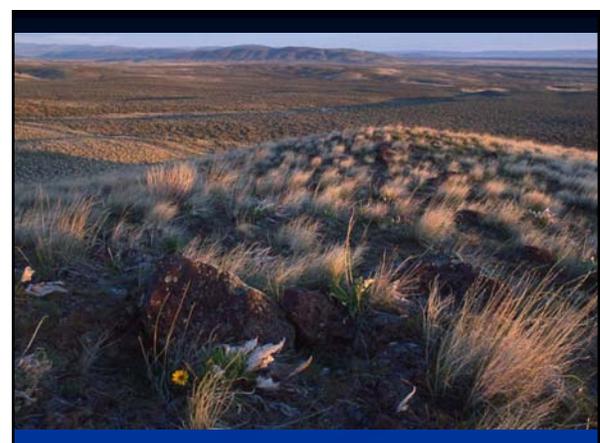
**SENSITIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES
ARE:**

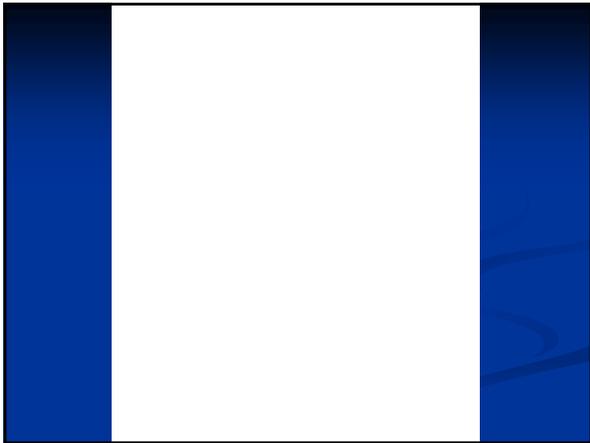
- Large intact communities could be significantly damaged or lost through wildfire occurrences
 - Require some additional protection within the CCP
 - Loss would be significant within the context of globally/regionally important plant communities
 - Important for longevity of wildlife species
 - May be potential reintroduction sites for Extinct Species



**SENSITIVE PLANT
COMMUNITIES ARE:**

- Significant disturbance within these communities would lead to rapid spread of non-native invasive species
 - Further threaten ecological integrity of wildlife habitat





Planning Assumptions

- “Landscape Scale” Plan
- Inventories, monitoring and staffing in place
- Use of management tools such as site design, seasonal restrictions, area closures, etc., are implemented for resource protection and consistent with site safety/security concerns

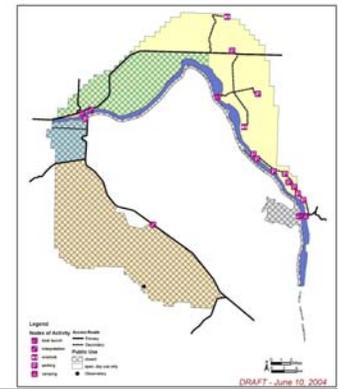


Planning Assumptions

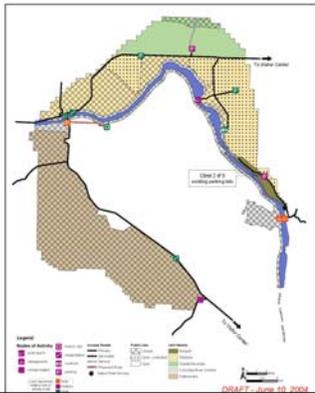
- Every unit has potential for approved research and Service-led activities
- Partnerships
- Visitor Center



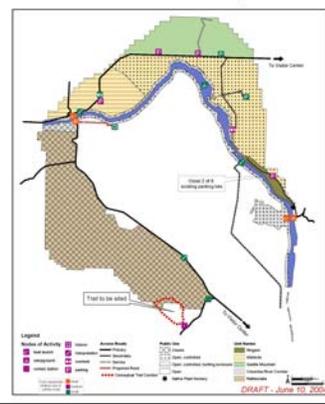
Alternative A
Hanford Reach National Monument

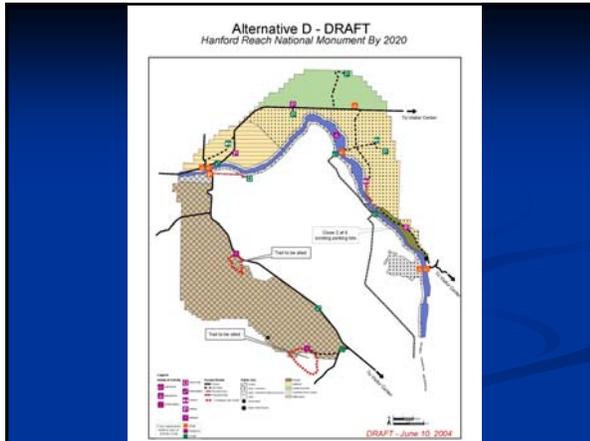


Alternative B - DRAFT
Hanford Reach National Monument By 2020



Alternative C - DRAFT
Hanford Reach National Monument By 2020





Environmental Impact Analysis

- First level analysis has occurred through public scoping, work shops, FAC advice, alternative development, data acquisition and analysis
- Key environmental indicators that could be effected identified
- Indicators “lumped” into 17 resource/attributes
- Team derived in the field



- ## Attribute/Resource
- Fire
 - Weeds
 - Connectivity/ Fragmentation
 - Upland Habitats
 - Riverine/Aquatic Habitats
 - Microbiotic Crust
 - Wildlife Disturbance
 - Rare Plants
 - Paleontologic/Geologic
 - Cultural Sites
 - Cultural Traditions
 - Solitude/Aesthetics
 - Hunting
 - Fishing
 - Education/Interp.
 - Wildlife Obs./Photography
 - Access

- ## Selected Attributes
- Fire (frequency, duration, location, magnitude)
 - Weeds (seed spread potential, ground disturbance, source, containment, control)
 - Cultural Sites (vandalism, destruction)
 - Wildlife Observation/Photography
 - + = positive impact expected benefit (environmental, solitude, experience, direct improvement in condition)
 - - = negative impact expected (environmental, experience, solitude, etc.)

Example: Objective 1_8

- Conduct Restoration activities on 6,000 acres annually on upland habitats to retain and restore stable functioning ecosystems that support diverse biotic communities



Objective 1_8: Shrub-steppe restoration				
Attribute	Alt. A Variable Acreage	Alt. B Restore 6,000 Acres	Alt. C Restore 4,000 Acres	Alt. D Restore 2,000 Acres
Fire	+	Annually + Greater than C	Annually + Greater than D	Annually + Greater than A
Weeds	+	+ Greater than C	+ Greater than D	+ Greater than D
Cultural Sites	No Significant Impact	No Significant Impact	No Significant Impact	No Significant Impact
Wildlife Observatio	+	+ Greater than C	+ Greater than D	+ Greater than A

Example: Objective 7_14

- Based on resource protection needs, provide a variety of hiking opportunities, with seasonal and area restrictions.



Objective 7_14: Hiking				
Attribute	Alt. A Hiking 70,080 Ac.	Alt. B Hiking 68,842 Ac.	Alt. C Hiking 108,042 Ac.	Alt. D Hiking 111,996 Ac.
Fire	-	-, less than A	-, greater than B (< A)	-, greater than C (< A)
Weeds	-	-, less than A	-, greater than B (< A)	-, greater than C (< A)
Cultural Sites	-	-, less than A	-, greater than B (< A)	-, greater than C (< A)
Wildlife Observation	+	-, more people, less places	-, greater than B (< A)	-, less than A

Impacts Summary

- Provides simplified summary of anticipated impacts on key attributes
- Presented within a Landscape Scale context
- Site Plans and Projects, Habitat Plans will drive species and site specific analysis
- “Snap-shot” in time. Final impact analysis within EIS will describe impacts to Monument resources by alternative
- Final analysis based in “best available science”