

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Washington, D.C. 20240 http://www.blm.gov



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Dear Sirs or Madam:

Enclosed is the 2013 annual report for the section 368 corridors per the Settlement Agreement in Wilderness Society v. United States Department of the Interior. No. 3:09-cv-03048-JW (N.D. Cal.). The Memorandum of Understanding executed under the settlement agreement states: "The Workgroup will provide a brief annual report to each agency and their principal contacts." The annual report is a compilation of quarterly reports.

The Workgroup continues to meet and has formed a subgroup to designate regions and prioritize the top three regions to be studied initially. The subgroup will deliver this information to the Workgroup, and the Workgroup will select the first region. In studying the region, the Workgroup will use the information collected by the subgroup in combination with information received from the Request for Information (RFI) to guide the study. Once the study is completed, the Workgroup will use the information collected by the study along with other relevant information to make recommendations regarding changes to the existing corridors.

Highlights from the annual report include:

- 1) Establishment and biweekly meetings of the Workgroup;
- 2) Execution of the Memorandum of Understanding;
- 3) Establishment of the Annual Work Plan;
- 4) Completion of the communication plan;
- 6) Issuance of BLM-WO-IM-2013-118, which updated BLM-WO-IM-2010-169;
- 7) Drafting of BLM policy and circulation of the policy to field offices for comment; and
- 8) Drafting of the RFI on section 368 corridors and circulation of the RFI to the Workgroup for comments.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Fusilier, Realty Specialist, at 202 912-7426.

-Sincerely.

Jennifer Whyte

Acting Branch Chief

Rights-of-Way

368 Working Group

Enclosure

## Annual Workgroup Report December 2013

Agency	Task	Target Date	Completion Date
BLM	Provision of briefing materials by Washington Office to State Directors and public affairs leads	8/6/2012	8/6/2012
BLM	Washington Office call with State Office Lands Program Leads regarding the settlement agreement	8/15/2012	8/15/2012
BLM	Revisions to external webpage at <a href="http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/transmission.ht">http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/transmission.ht</a> <a href="mailto:ml">ml</a> to include settlement agreement updates	8/23/2012	8/23/2012
BLM	Washington Office Division Chiefs call with Deputy State Directors regarding settlement agreement	8/30/2012	8/30/2012
BLM & USFS	Meeting September 6, 2012, at USDA to discuss agency training and invitation letters, agency points of contact, draft MOU, and quarterly report	9/6/2012	9/6/2012
BLM	Call with Washington Office, National Training Center, and industry (Edison Electric Institute and Idaho Power Company) regarding settlement agreement and modifications to Electric Systems Short Course (ESSC)	10/4/2012	10/4/2012
BLM & USFS	Sending invitation letters to environmental groups, industry, and tribes to participate in agency training	10/11/2012	10/19/2012
BLM	Presentation on settlement agreement to 29 BLM and 55 USFS managers from various locations at the National Lands Training for Line Officers and Program Managers Course in Shepherdstown, WV	10/15/2012	10/15/2012
BLM	October 17, 2012, meeting with Argonne National Lab (Argonne) to discuss updates to West-wide Energy Corridor (WWEC) webpage at <a href="http://corridoreis.anl.gov/">http://corridoreis.anl.gov/</a>	11/11/2012	TBD
BLM & USFS	Meeting to discuss formation of the Workgroup and to hear support proposals from National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Argonne	1/7/2013	1/7/2013
BLM & USFS	Initiation of coordination to revise ESSC	2/15/2013	2/6/2013
USFS	Drafting of task order proposing deliverables for Argonne in support of the Workgroup	1/29/2013	TBD
BLM & USFS	Identification of key members of Workgroup, discussion of framework for the MOU, and agreement to meet bi-weekly to assign and update tasks	1/30/2013	1/30/2013
BLM	Identification of plaintiff representatives for participation in the ESSC	2/15/2013	3/1/2013
USFS	Drafting of a letter to update Agencies' staffs on implementation of the settlement agreement	2/15/2013	2/28/2013

BLM & USFS	Completion of communications plan	2/18/2013	12/05/13
BLM & USFS	Completion of MOU and Work Plan for Regional Periodic Reviews and posting of those documents on BLM's website at <a href="http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/transmission.html">http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/transmission.html</a> and on the WWEC Corridor website at <a href="http://corridoreis.anl.gov//news/index.cfm">http://corridoreis.anl.gov//news/index.cfm</a> ; tentative agreement to procure Argonne's support for corridor study, reports, and outreach and discussion of possibility of NREL assistance	2/27/2013	7/8/2013
BLM & USFS	Meeting with Agencies' Directors to provide update on implementation of the settlement agreement and to set a routine meeting schedule to brief Directors	2/28/2013	2/28/2013
BLM	Drafting of, comment on, and issuance of policy, which has been delayed due to lapse in federal appropriations	11/1/2013	TBD
BLM	Updating of BLM IM 2010-169 through issuance of IM 2013-118, on April 12, 2013, and posting of the IM on the BLM website		4/12/2013
BLM	Updating of Electric System and Pipeline Courses was cancelled due to sequestration	3/18/2013	TBD
BLM	Updating of National Lands Training for Line Officers and Program Managers Course, which was cancelled due to sequestration and which has been rescheduled for October 2014	Fall/2013	TBD
BLM & USFS	Completion of Corridor Study Work Plan	7/11/2013	7/8/2013
USFS	Development of policy, which has been delayed due to lapse in federal appropriations	12/1/2013	TBD