

INTRODUCTION

>> The Bureau of Land Management presents live from the BLM National Training Center in Phoenix, Arizona, a Planning/NEPA Forum. Today's topic: NEPA Problem-Solving, Part 2. And now, the host of your program, Cathy Humphrey.

>> C. Humphrey: Good morning in the west and good afternoon in the east. Welcome to our latest Planning/NEPA Forum. This is Part 2 of the NEPA Problem-Solving series where our experts answer your NEPA questions.

I hope you were able to catch Part 1, where the panel answered questions on the NEPA Process, Streamlining the Process, Tiering-Incorporation by Reference-Adopting Other Agencies' Analysis, Public and Interdisciplinary Team Involvement, and Alternatives.

And then today, in Part 2, we're going to answer your questions about Significance, Effects, Decisions, and Legal Challenges. And then finally, Part 3, which is scheduled for February 5th, 2015, that one is going to focus on Resource-specific Questions. The categories we have so far are Grazing, Cultural, and Socioeconomics. That program is going to be for BLM only. So if there's any resource-specific questions...

[***Captions paused to set up internet streaming—THIS IS WHAT WAS MISSED:*** ... So if there's any resource-specific questions you'd like us to answer, please send them to me.

Our last program was simultaneously broadcast through our usual BLM satellite network and it was also Livestreamed on the intranet. It seemed to work pretty well, so we are doing the same thing today. Just a word of caution, if each person in every office is watching the Livestream on his or her own computer, then it might cause some buffering issues, so you may want to get together and watch in small groups. And we all know how exciting NEPA is, so I'm sure everybody in the Bureau is watching this today.

One more tip that will enhance your experience, is I hope you have your NEPA Handbook with you ...

If you didn't register in DOI Learn, send me an email and I'll do it for you.

As usual, I want feedback on your viewing experience, whether via satellite or Livestream. You can use the Metrics That Matter evaluation form that you'll get emailed to you if you're registered in DOI Learn. Or you can go to the NEPA Training Corner Google Site and comment there. You should be seeing that page on your screen now. I sent a link to registered participants.

I want to talk a minute or two about some of the feedback we got on NEPA Problem-Solving, Part 1, so you know we read them, and listen to you:

- The only issues people seemed to have with the Livestream is their computer went dark if they didn't move their mouse from time to time—so be sure to move your mouse. The satellite signal, on the other hand, went down a few times and the voice/pic weren't in sync.
- People seemed to like this Q&A only format vs our typical presentation with only a little Q&A.
- Couple people didn't appreciate the lack of time for interaction – today we will have time for your clarifying questions. I'll have the email-text-fax info for you in a minute.
- Some of you wished you'd had the questions in advance, so for this broadcast we sent them to you if you registered in DOI Learn
- And my favorite comment, when asked what are you going to do with what you learned: "We will embrace the advice to streamline NEPA documents to only focus on issues that are likely to affect the decision"

Like last time, today we will answer the questions you previously sent us from the field. You will be able to ask clarifying questions as they come up, by email, fax, or text. We'll answer them as we can. And depending on when they come in, we might have to answer them towards the end of the program.]

If your question is not a clarifying question or if we run out of time, then we'll either answer you by email, we'll post it to the web page, or we'll save it for the February 5th broadcast. And you see the contact information on your screen now, so you may want to jot it down or put it in your phone. The email and text address, as you can see, is BLM_TC_telecast@blm.gov, and the fax number—if people use faxes still—is 602-906-5701.

And then, of course, as usual, the taped broadcast along with the reference materials and the links will be posted to the NEPA Training Corner Google site, and also the Knowledge Resource Center or KRC. If you didn't get the link—I sent it to the people that were registered—if you didn't get it, let me know and I will send it along to you, or you can do a search. Hopefully, maybe, you have it bookmarked from the past.

All right. So now is the time to meet your panel. We are going to start here in the studio with Gloria Tibbetts. You might recognize Gloria from the previous NEPA Problem-Solving broadcast. She joins us from just up the road here in Phoenix, Arizona, where she is the District Planning and Environmental Coordinator working on everything from RMP implementation plans to a multitude of NEPA products in all program areas. Before coming to Phoenix, Gloria worked in Battle Mountain, Nevada, as project manager for various EIS and EA projects. She's an ePlanning Super User. She has been permanent with the BLM since 2010. Something you may not know about Gloria is she started her BLM career as a wildland firefighter. I'm glad you were able to take time to be here with us.

>> G. Tibbetts: Thank you. I'm happy to be here.

>> C. Humphrey: Also we have Jerry Magee. Jerry started with BLM in 1976 in southern California, then moved to Portland, where he's been since 1984. He led the BLM Oregon Statewide Wilderness EIS Team, was a P&EC for 20 years, where he got to work on the Northwest Forest Plan and the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project. He's now back to his roots as the Oregon/Washington Wilderness and National Conservation Lands Program Lead. A fun fact about Jerry is last spring he went to the Kingdom of Jordan to co-design and conduct a workshop on Land Use Planning for Protected Areas. I'm so glad you are able to be with us today.

>> J. Magee: Thank you for inviting me.

>> C. Humphrey: And finally, we have Michael Williams here in the studio. Michael was on a previous broadcast that you may remember on Administrative Records and Project Files. Michael is an attorney-advisor with the Office of the Solicitor, Southwest Region in Santa Fe where he has worked for six years. He works primarily with the BLM, The National Park Service in New Mexico on NEPA and mineral issues. Before coming to the Office of the Solicitor, Michael worked in private practice for an oil and gas law firm in Santa Fe. And a fun fact about Michael is he's a recovering Texan. What I want to know are you a Cowboys or Texan fan?

>> M. Williams: Neither.

>> C. Humphrey: Well, we are glad you are here. That's a very political[ly correct] answer. That's good. So now let's go to our nation's capital where the other two panel members are standing by.

I would like to start with Kerry Rodgers. You might recognize Kerry from the Regional Mitigation broadcast. Kerry is the senior NEPA specialist in the BLM Washington Office's Division of Decision Support, Planning and NEPA. She joined the BLM in 2010 as an air resource specialist in D.C. and has led the national NEPA program since 2012. Kerry's work focuses on NEPA policy, guidance, and training. She leads the Planning 2.0 Regulations Team drafting revisions to the BLM land use planning regulations. Kerry previously worked as an environmental lawyer at a private law firm and two federal agencies, and she directed a law school environmental law clinic. And one of my favorite fun facts about Kerry is she runs marathons. Hi, Kerry, it's good to see you.

>> K. Rodgers: Hi, Cathy, thanks for having me.

>> C. Humphrey: And then finally, rounding out our panel, is Leah Baker. Like Gloria, Leah was on our last NEPA Problem-Solving Broadcast. Leah works in the Washington office. She works with the states that are developing resource management plans. She leads the resolution of RMP protests and she is assistant project manager of Planning 2.0. Before she was in D.C., Leah worked here in Phoenix at the District Office. She was a district Planning and

Environmental Coordinator for four years, and before that she was an ePlanning specialist with the NOC in Denver. Now here's a fun fact about Leah. Leah has lost her wallet at least a dozen times and it always comes back to her, even though she lost it like on a San Francisco train, a Bolivian bus. That's amazing! Hi, Leah, great to see you.

>> L. Baker: Thanks for having me again.

>> C. Humphrey: And that is our panel.

As a reminder today we will answer questions about four things: Significance, Effects, Decisions, and Legal Challenges. Don't forget if you have any clarifying questions about what we are talking about, you can send us an email, fax or a text and we'll get to it as we work it into the program.