

Preliminary Meeting for Conduit Exemption and Eventual License Surrender

Stairs Hydroelectric Project
(FERC Project No. 597)



Welcome

Stairs Project Team:

Eve Davies – Principal Environmental Scientist (PacifiCorp)

Nuria Holmes – FERC Technical Advisor (SWCA)

Emily Waters – Project Manager (SWCA)

Annie Ng – Assistant Project Manager (SWCA)

Charlotte Garris – Project Coordinator (SWCA)



Pacific Power
Rocky Mountain Power



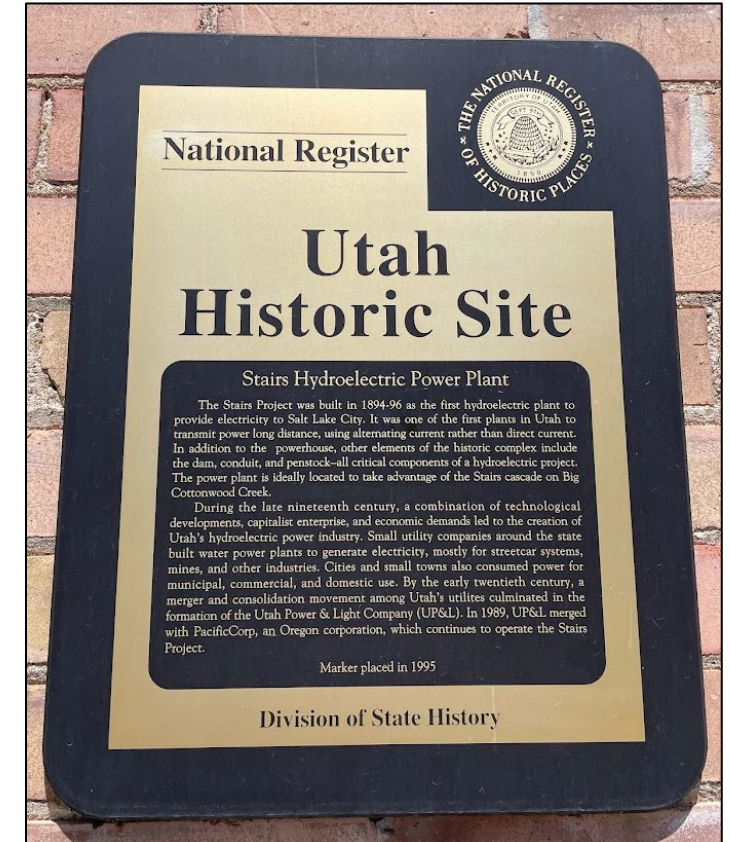
Agenda

- Stairs Project and Licensing Overview
- Conduit Exemption Summary
- PacifiCorp's Proposed Action
- Three-Stage Consultation Process
- Tentative Schedule
- Questions and Discussion



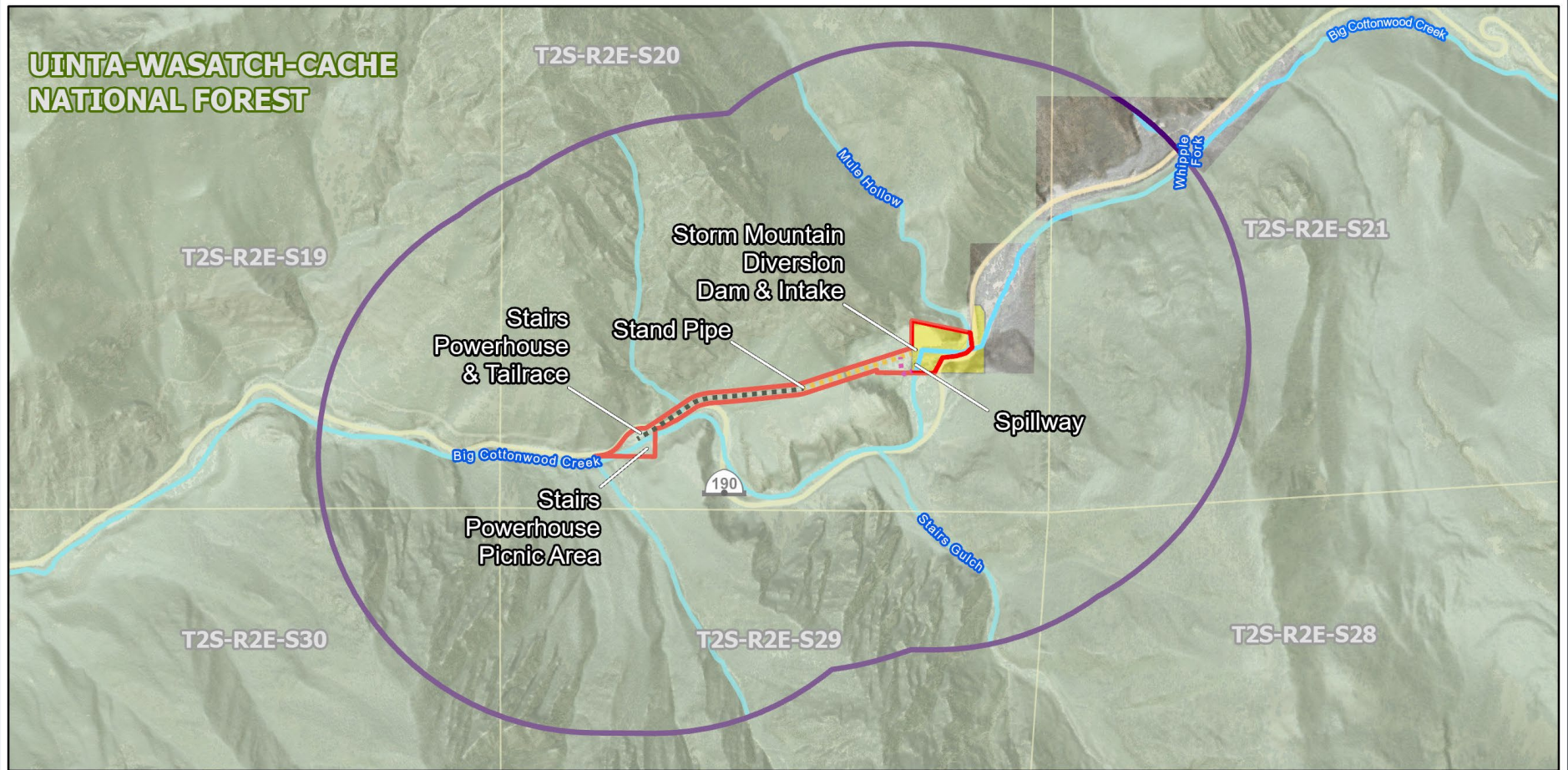
Stairs Hydroelectric Project Overview

- 1,200 kW hydroelectric project with Project infrastructure located up Big Cottonwood Canyon in Salt Lake County, Utah. Located directly upstream of PacifiCorp's Granite Hydroelectric Plant (Stairs' sister-station).
- Current License issued September 30, 1999, with an effective date of July 1, 2000. The current license expiration date is June 30, 2030. Relicensing must start no later than June 2025.
- Major Project Features:
 - Storm Mountain Dam and intake
 - Penstock
 - Powerhouse with turbine- generator unit
 - Tailrace canal: *flow consumed by Granite Project's intake.*



Stairs Project Location & Components

Approximately 2 miles upstream (east) of the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon

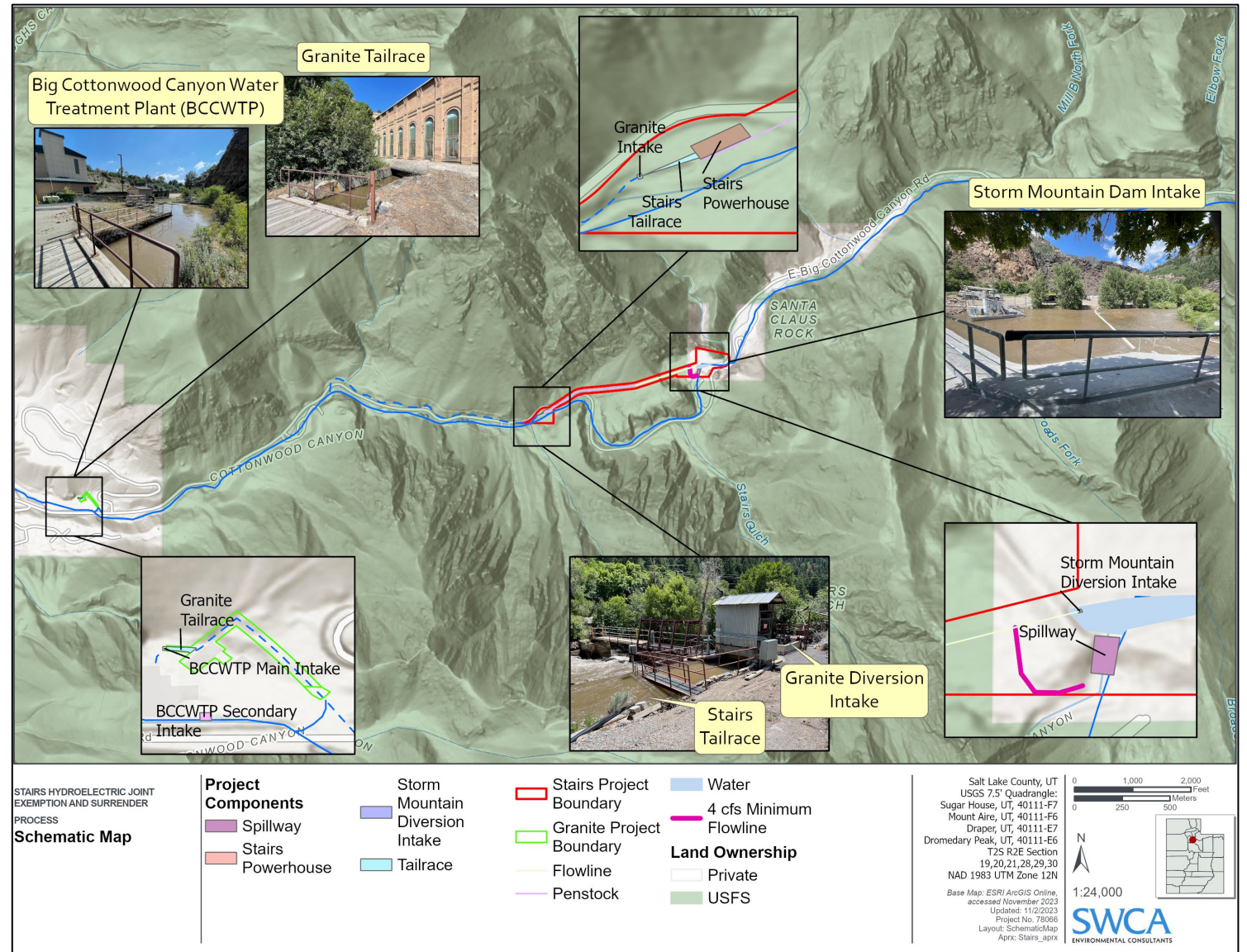


<p> Current FERC Project Boundary (P-597)</p> <p> Proposed FERC Project Boundary</p>	<p> Big Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Byway (State Highway 190)</p> <p> PLSS Section Line</p>	<p>Land Ownership</p> <p> USFS</p> <p> PacifiCorp</p> <p> Other Private</p>	<p>Weber County, UT USGS 7.5' Quadrangle: North Ogden, UT, 41111-C8 Huntsville, UT, 41111-C7 Snow Basin, UT, 41111-B7 Ogden, UT, 41111-B8 NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>1:20,000</p> <p>SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS</p>
<p>Project Facilities</p> <p> Penstock</p> <p> Minimum Flow Pipeline</p> <p> Flowline</p>				

Stairs Schematic Map

Water conveyance from:

- Stairs Project Facilities into
- Granite Project Facilities into
- BCWTP Facilities for the purpose of municipal water use





Stairs Project & Granite Project, and Big Cottonwood Water Treatment Plant

- Stairs Project was originally constructed in 1896 and was the first hydroelectric power station to supply power to Salt Lake City with AC electricity for long-distance power transmission

Coordination with other facilities down canyon:

- Water taken from Cottonwood Creek at Stairs' Storm Mountain Dam goes through Stairs Project powerhouse and then leaves the Project through Stairs' tailrace directly to Granite Project's intake.
- The water from Stairs' Project tailrace goes through Granite Project's facilities and discharges its water directly into the Big Cottonwood Water Treatment Plant's (BCWTP) intake.
 - Water that goes through BCWTP facilities are used for the purpose of Salt Lake City's municipal water use.

FERC Conduit Exemption

- **Currently, the Project has a 30-year Minor Project License (less than 5MW).**
- **18 CFR 4.90:** “small conduit hydroelectric facility” may be exempt from licensing requirements
- **Title 18 CFR § 4.30:** Qualifying Conduit Hydropower Facility
 - Applies when a facility, not including any dam or impoundment, that is not required to be licensed under Part I of the FPA because it is determined to meet the following criteria:
 - ✓ Generates electric power using only the hydroelectric potential of a non-federally owned conduit;
 - ✓ Has an installed capacity that does not exceed 40 megawatts (MW); and,
 - ✓ Was not licensed or exempted from the licensing requirements of Part I of the FPA on or before August 9, 2013.



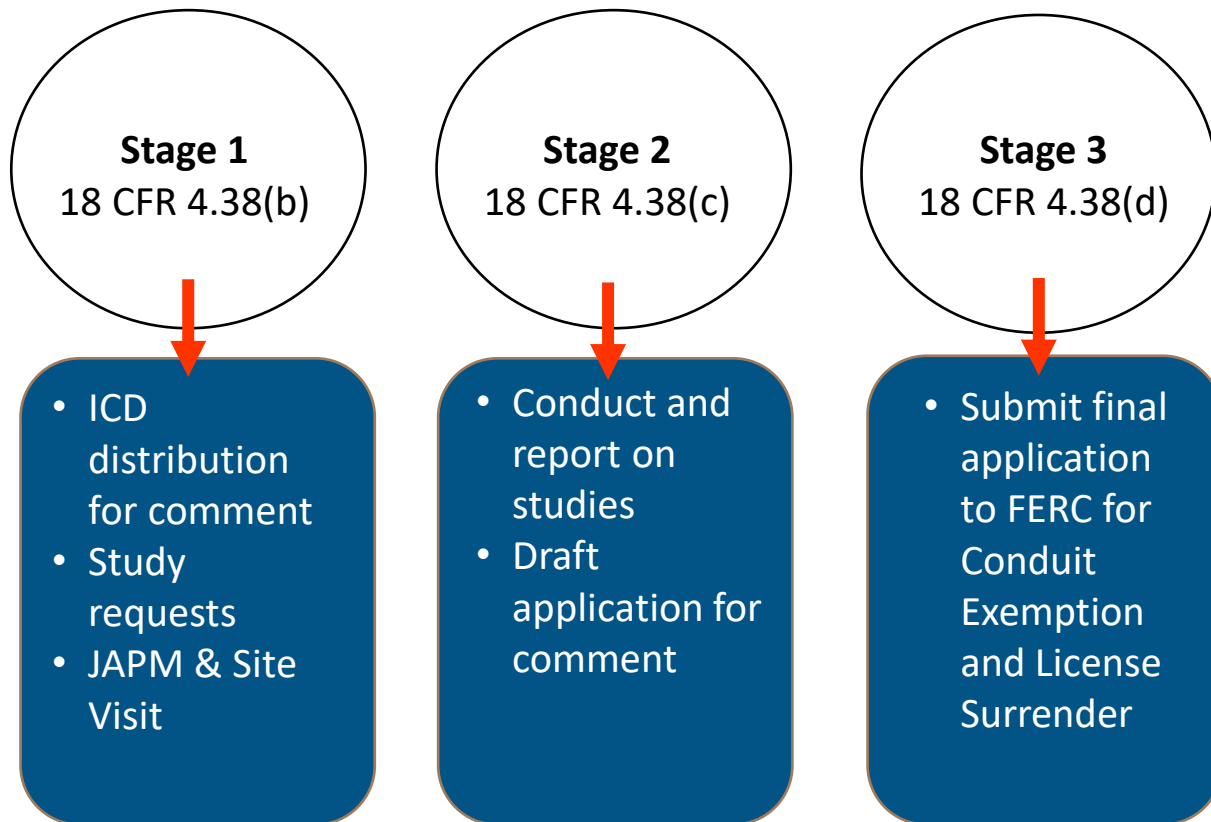
Proposed Action

- PacifiCorp proposes to convert the Project to the more appropriate conduit exemption. Once granted (corresponding actions), surrender the current FERC project license.
- PacifiCorp believes that the Stairs Project meets the Federal Power Act definitions of a conduit; therefore, in lieu of initiating relicensing pursuant to 18 CFR 4.5 and 5.1.
- Should FERC not grant the exemption, PacifiCorp would convert the ICD developed as part of the three-stage consultation to a pre-application document required pursuant to relicensing regulations at 18 CFR 4.6 and 5.1



Granite Project's tailrace, which leads directly to the Big Cottonwood Water Treatment Plant

Three Stage Consultation Process (18 CFR § 4.38)



Three-stage consultation involves:

- reaching out to relevant agencies, Tribes, and other interested parties
- holding a public meeting
- conducting study planning and reporting study results (if needed)
- providing a **draft ICD and application** for review

The Proposed Action would be largely administrative. There would be **no construction of new facilities or changes to existing facilities, ownership, or operations and maintenance activities**; therefore, PacifiCorp is neither proposing nor anticipating requests for studies at this time.

License Exemption Process: Tentative Schedule

Responsible Entity	Milestone	Estimated Milestone Date
<i>Pre-Consultation Activities- Prior to Exemption Application Submittal</i>		
PacifiCorp	Identify data gaps and develop list of preliminary studies	Fall 2023
PacifiCorp	Conduct preliminary studies	N/A
<i>Stage 1 Consultation § 4.38(b)</i>		
PacifiCorp	File and distribute Initial Consultation Document (ICD) and proposed studies for comment and requesting additional study requests, if applicable Request designation as FERC’s non-federal representative for informal consultation pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act	February 2024
PacifiCorp	Provide notification of joint agency and public meeting (JAPM) meeting location and timing	March 2024
FERC	FERC issues notice of approval of non-federal representative designation for informal consultation	March 2024
PacifiCorp/Interested Parties	JAPM and site visit	April 2024
FERC/Interested Parties	<i>Comments Due:</i> Initial Consultation Document <i>Deadline:</i> Proposed Study Requests	April-May 2024
<i>Stage 2 Consultation § 4.38(c)</i>		
PacifiCorp	Propose to waive Stage 2 Consultation due to no resource impacts	February 2024
<i>Stage 3 Consultation § 4.38(d)</i>		
PacifiCorp	Submit final Application for License Exemption and License Surrender	Summer 2024
FERC	FERC issues an order exempting the license and license surrender (subject to change)	TBD

A scenic mountain landscape. In the foreground, there is a lush green valley with dense trees and tall grass. The middle ground shows a steep, rocky mountain slope covered in dark green forest. In the background, a large, rugged mountain peak rises against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

Questions and Discussion



Thank you for attending! Please stay tuned for the meeting summary notes with our request for support in the Exemption process, and the publishing of the Stairs ICD in February and future correspondence on our upcoming JAPM!

You can email questions or comments to PacifiCorp: Eve.Davies@pacificorp.com

Stay tuned for a Project website coming soon!