

Electronically filed April 1, 2024

Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

**Subject: Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)
 Notice of Joint Agency and Public Meetings for Proposed Conduit
 Exemption and Corresponding License Surrender**

Dear Acting Secretary Reese:

PacifiCorp is the owner and operator of the Stairs Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 597 (Project) located in Salt Lake County approximately 15 miles southeast of downtown Salt Lake City. The Project FERC license expires on June 30, 2030. As such, PacifiCorp must initiate a relicensing process no later than June 2025.

On February 16, 2024, PacifiCorp filed an Initial Consultation Document (ICD) with FERC pursuant to the content requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 18 Section (§) 4.38 to pursue a Joint Conduit Exemption and License Surrender Application pursuant to 18 CFR Subpart J, § 4.90 and 18 CFR Part 6. PacifiCorp believes the Project qualifies as a conduit exempt facility under Section 30(a)(2) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), and therefore, in-lieu of initiating FERC relicensing pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.5 and § 5.1, we propose to instead initiate a joint exemption and surrender application pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.30 and § 6.1, with the license surrender contingent upon FERC granting the exemption.

Three-stage consultation is required by 18 CFR § 4.38(a)(6) for applicants pursuing an exemption. The first stage of consultation includes filing the ICD and hosting a Joint Agency and Public Meeting to discuss the Proposed Action.

On March 21, 2024, PacifiCorp conducted the Stairs Project Joint Agency and Public Meetings and site visit. Two meetings were open to the public and held in person at the Granite Hydroelectric Project, located at 3933 E Big Cottonwood Canyon Road in Salt Lake City, Utah. The morning meeting was held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; the site visit was from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. and an evening meeting was held from 5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.38 (b)(3)(B) and 4.38(g)(1) PacifiCorp circulated notice in the newspaper of record (Salt Lake Tribune) on March 6, 2024. PacifiCorp also filed notice with FERC on March 5, 2024, and sent a copy of the meeting notice to interested parties including the Tribes.

The proof of publication for the newspaper notice, meeting materials, including the agenda, presentation, written comments and sign in-sheets are provided in Attachment A. Meeting recordings, are included in Attachment B. This information will also be sent to interested parties to the Project.

Please contact Eve Davies, License Project Manager with PacifiCorp, at eve.davies@pacificorp.com or at 801-232-1704 for any additional questions regarding the meetings.

Sincerely,



William C. Shallenberger
Vice President, Renewable Resources

WCS:ED:EW:DS

Encl:	Cover Letter – Public Attachment A: Newspaper Proof of Publication and JAPM Meeting Materials – Public Attachment B: JAPM Meeting Recordings – Public
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eFile:	Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary via eFile at www.ferc.gov
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ATTACHMENT A

JOINT AGENCY AND PUBLIC MEETING MATERIALS

ATTACHMENT A-1
NEWSPAPER PUBLICATIONS

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

CUSTOMER'S COPY

CUSTOMER NAME AND ADDRESS

SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
TREVOR HERRITT
257 E 200 S STE 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Trevor.Herritt@swca.com

ACCOUNT NUMBER

21269

ACCOUNT NAME

SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

TELEPHONE

509-504-4161

ORDER

SLT0026413

CUSTOMER REFERENCE NUMBER

CAPTION

Notice of Joint Agency and Public Meeting Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597) PacifiCorp is the owner, operator, and licensee of the 1.2-megawatt (MW) Stairs Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 597 (Project) located on Big Cottonwood Creek in Salt Lake County, Utah, about 15 miles southeast of downtown Salt Lake City.

TOTAL COST

\$159.80

Notice of Joint Agency and Public Meeting Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)

PacifiCorp is the owner, operator, and licensee of the 1.2-megawatt (MW) Stairs Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 597 (Project) located on Big Cottonwood Creek in Salt Lake County, Utah, about 15 miles southeast of downtown Salt Lake City. The Stairs Project FERC license expires on June 30, 2030.

On February 16, 2024, PacifiCorp filed an Initial Consultation Document (ICD) with FERC pursuant to the content requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 18 Section (§) 4.38 to pursue a Joint Conduit Exemption and License Surrender Application pursuant to 18 CFR Subpart J, § 4.90 and 18 CFR Part 6. PacifiCorp believes the Project qualifies as a conduit exempt facility under Section 30(a)(2) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), and therefore, in-lieu of initiating FERC relicensing pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.5 and § 5.1, it proposes to initiate a joint exemption and surrender application pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.30 and § 6.1, with the license surrender contingent upon FERC granting the exemption.

Three-stage consultation is required by 18 CFR § 4.38(a)(6), and CFR § 4.38(b)(3) requires PacifiCorp to notify the public of the joint agency and public meeting to discuss the Proposed Action.

NOTICE is hereby given that PacifiCorp is hosting a joint agency and public meeting and site visit on March 21, 2024. The morning session will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; the site visit will occur from 1:30-3:30 p.m., and the evening session will be held from 5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. at the Granite Hydroelectric Project (3933 E Big Cottonwood Canyon Rd, Salt Lake City, UT 84121). The morning session will be followed by a site visit of the Stairs Project. The purposes of the meetings are to: review the Proposed Project plans; discuss proposed Project resource information and receive interested parties' input; discuss Project objectives; and discuss FERC process and comment submittal requirements. The purpose of the site visit is to tour and observe Project features and operations.

The ICD is available online by visiting <http://www.ferc.gov> and searching for P-597, or on PacifiCorp's Stairs webpage: <https://www.pacificorp.com/energy/hydro/stairs.html>. Written comments on the ICD and requests for studies to inform this process must be submitted by May 20, 2024.

Please contact Eve Davies, Project Manager with PacifiCorp, at eve.davies@pacificorp.com or at 801-232-1704 if you have any questions about accessing the ICD or meeting information.

SLT0026413

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

AS THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE, INC. LEGAL BOOKER, I CERTIFY THAT THE ATTACHED ADVERTISEMENT OF Notice of Joint Agency and Public Meeting Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597) PacifiCorp is the owner, operator, and licensee of the 1.2-megawatt (MW) Stairs Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 597 (Project) located on Big Cottonwood Creek in Salt Lake County, Utah, about 15 miles southeast of downtown Salt Lake City. FOR SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS WAS PUBLISHED BY THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE, INC., WEEKLY NEWSPAPER PRINTED IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE WITH GENERAL CIRCULATION IN UTAH, AND PUBLISHED IN SALT LAKE CITY, SALT LAKE COUNTY IN THE STATE OF UTAH. NOTICE IS ALSO POSTED ON UTAHLEGALS.COM ON THE SAME DAY AS THE FIRST NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION DATE AND REMAINS ON UTAHLEGALS.COM INDEFINITELY. COMPLIES WITH UTAH DIGITAL SIGNATURE ACT UTAH CODE 46-2-101; 46-3-104.

PUBLISHED ON 03/06/2024

DATE 03/11/2024

STATE OF UTAH
COUNTY OF SALT LAKE

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME ON THIS 12th DAY OF MARCH IN THE YEAR 2024

BY Jordyn Gallegos

SIGNATURE

Jordyn Gallegos



Laree Whitmer

NOTARY PUBLIC SIGNATURE

ATTACHMENT A-2

SIGN-IN SHEETS

Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)

Joint Agency and Public Meeting Morning Session

Name	Agency/Organization/Individual	Role/Title	Email Address
Charles Conrad	U.S. Forest Service	Hydrologist	charles.conrad@usda.gov
Scott Catton	Trout Unlimited	Project Manager	scott.catton@tu.org
Charles Rosier	US Forest Service	Lands & Special Uses	charles.rosier@usda.gov
Mike Slater	UDWR	Sportfish Proj Leader	michaelslater@utah.gov
Sandy Wingert	UDEQ	upper pnrr + Jordan river coordinator	swingert@utah.gov
Sam Taylor	UDEQ	Hydrologist	staylor@utah.gov

Joint Agency and Public Meeting Afternoon Session

Joint Agency and Public Meeting Afternoon Session

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ATTACHMENT A-3

AGENDAS



**Stairs Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project No. 597**

Joint Agency and Public Meeting – Morning Session And Site Visit

Date:	March 21, 2024
Time:	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (MDT) Site visit 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Location:	Granite Hydroelectric Project Shop 3933 E Big Cottonwood Canyon Road Salt Lake City, UT 84121

Meeting Purpose:

- Review of proposal to submit a Joint Conduit Exemption and corresponding Surrender Application for the Stairs Hydroelectric Project
- Discuss proposed Project resource information and receive input from interested parties
- Discuss Project objectives
- Discuss FERC process and comment submittal requirements
- Adjourn for lunch (offsite) followed by a site visit

Agenda:

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Arrival, sign-in, safety moment, introductions
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of Proposed Project (Presentation)• FERC Process• Review of Upcoming Regulatory Requirements and Schedule• FERC Process/Public Participation• Proposed Project Overview<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Project Schematic○ Project Boundary• Project History and Historic Properties Management Plan
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss Project with participants and obtain input

JOINT AGENCY AND PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA – MARCH 21, 2024
STAIRS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (FERC PROJECT No. 597)

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
12:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adjourn for lunch
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project site visit. Car-pooling strongly recommended.
3:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adjourn



**Stairs Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project No. 597**

Joint Agency and Public Meeting – Evening Session

Date:	March 21, 2024
Time:	5:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. (MDT)
Location:	Granite Hydroelectric Project Shop 3933 E Big Cottonwood Canyon Road Salt Lake City, UT 84121

Meeting Purpose:

- Review of proposal to submit a Joint Conduit Exemption and corresponding Surrender Application for the Stairs Hydroelectric Project.
- Discuss proposed Project resource information and receive input from interested parties.
- Discuss Project objectives.
- Discuss FERC process and comment submittal requirements.

Agenda:

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
5:45 – 6:15 p.m.	Arrival, sign-in, safety moment, introductions
6:15 – 7:15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of Proposed Project (Presentation)• FERC Process• Review of Upcoming Regulatory Requirements and Schedule• FERC Process/Public Participation• Proposed Project Overview<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Project Schematic○ Project Boundary• Project History and Historic Properties Management Plan
7:15 – 7:45 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss Project with participants and obtain input
7:45 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adjourn

ATTACHMENT A-4
POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Stairs Hydroelectric Project: Proposed Conduit Exemption and License Surrender

(FERC Project No. 597)



Pacific Power
Rocky Mountain Power



Welcome

Stairs Project Team:

Eve Davies – PacifiCorp Principal Environmental Scientist

Emily Waters – SWCA Project Manager

Annie Ng – SWCA Assistant Project Manager

Charlotte Garris – SWCA Project Coordinator

Miriam Hugentobler – PacifiCorp Project Coordinator



Pacific Power
Rocky Mountain Power



Presentation Agenda

- Welcome and Meeting Purpose/Logistics
- Stairs Hydroelectric Project Background and History
- Introduction of the FERC Conduit Exemption and License Surrender Process
- Proposed Action
- Three-stage Consultation Process
- Environmental Resources and Studies
- Next Steps and Interactive Poster Workshop [*Breakout*]



Meeting Purpose

Purpose of this Meeting

- Review the Proposed Project plans
- Discuss Project objectives
- Provide an opportunity to discuss proposed Project resource information and receive interested parties' input
- Discuss Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) process and comment submittal requirements
- Conduct a site tour (morning only)

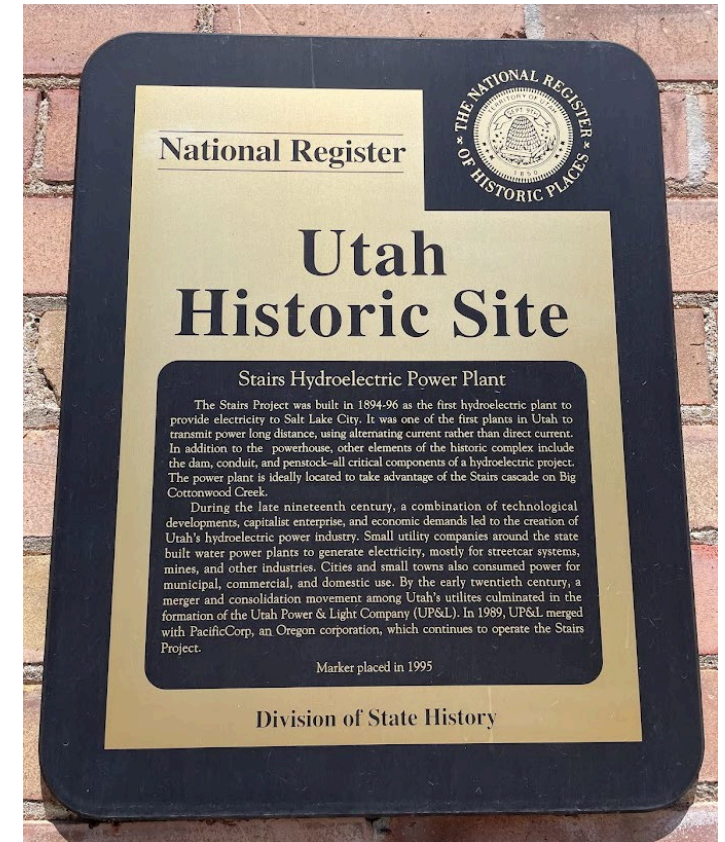


Stairs Project: Background and History



Stairs Project and Licensing Overview

- Stairs is a 1.2-MW hydroelectric project with the Stairs powerhouse located ~2 miles up Big Cottonwood Canyon in Salt Lake County, Utah. Located directly upstream of PacifiCorp's Granite Hydroelectric Plant (Project No. 14293), also regulated as a conduit exemption.
- First license issued and then amended in 1957.
- Current License issued September 30, 1999 with an effective date of July 1, 2000 and license expiration date is June 30, 2030; relicensing would need to start no later than June 2025.



Stairs Project Components Overview

Major Project features:

- **Storm Mountain Dam and intake:** *Located near the UWCNF Storm Mountain Picnic Area*
- **Penstock and Flowline:** *Flow diverted along 2,755 feet of flowline and penstock.*
- **Powerhouse**
- **Turbines and generators**
- **Tailrace canal:** *Flow consumed by Granite Project's intake*

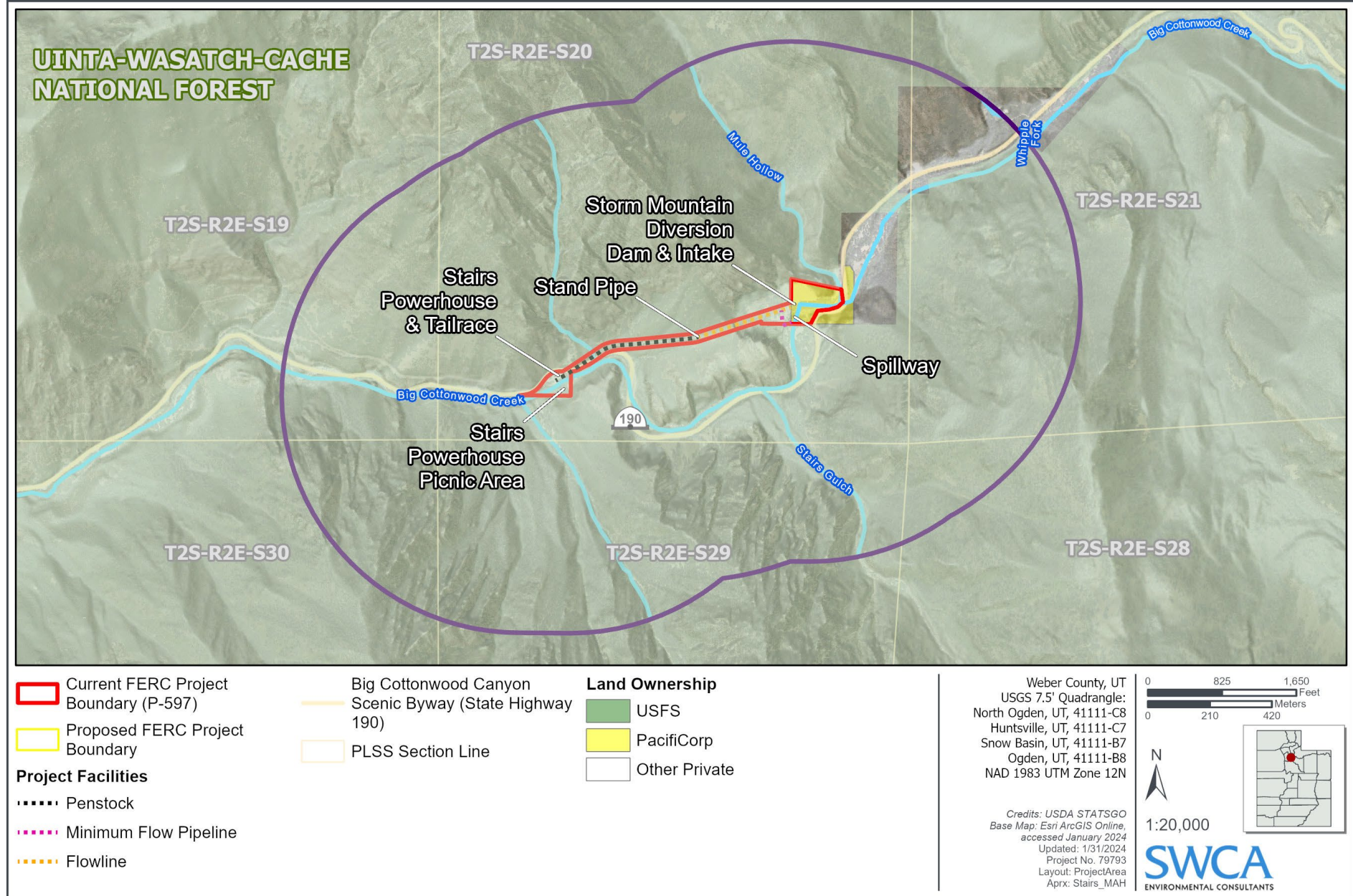
When the Granite Project is offline, flows return to Big Cottonweed Creek where they are again diverted and flow directly into the Big Cottonwood Creek Water Treatment Plant.



Stairs Penstock

Project Location

Approximately 2 miles east of the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon



Historical Overview of the Project



Historic Stairs Plant

1896: 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

1921: Original Storm Mountain Dam was replaced/enlarged

1910s-1920s: Replacement of original generators and turbines

1956: Stairs Project underwent some modernization, including the automatization of many of its functions, and decrease in size of forebay pond

1957: Stairs Project received its first license

Regulatory Process and Proposed Action



FERC Conduit Exemption

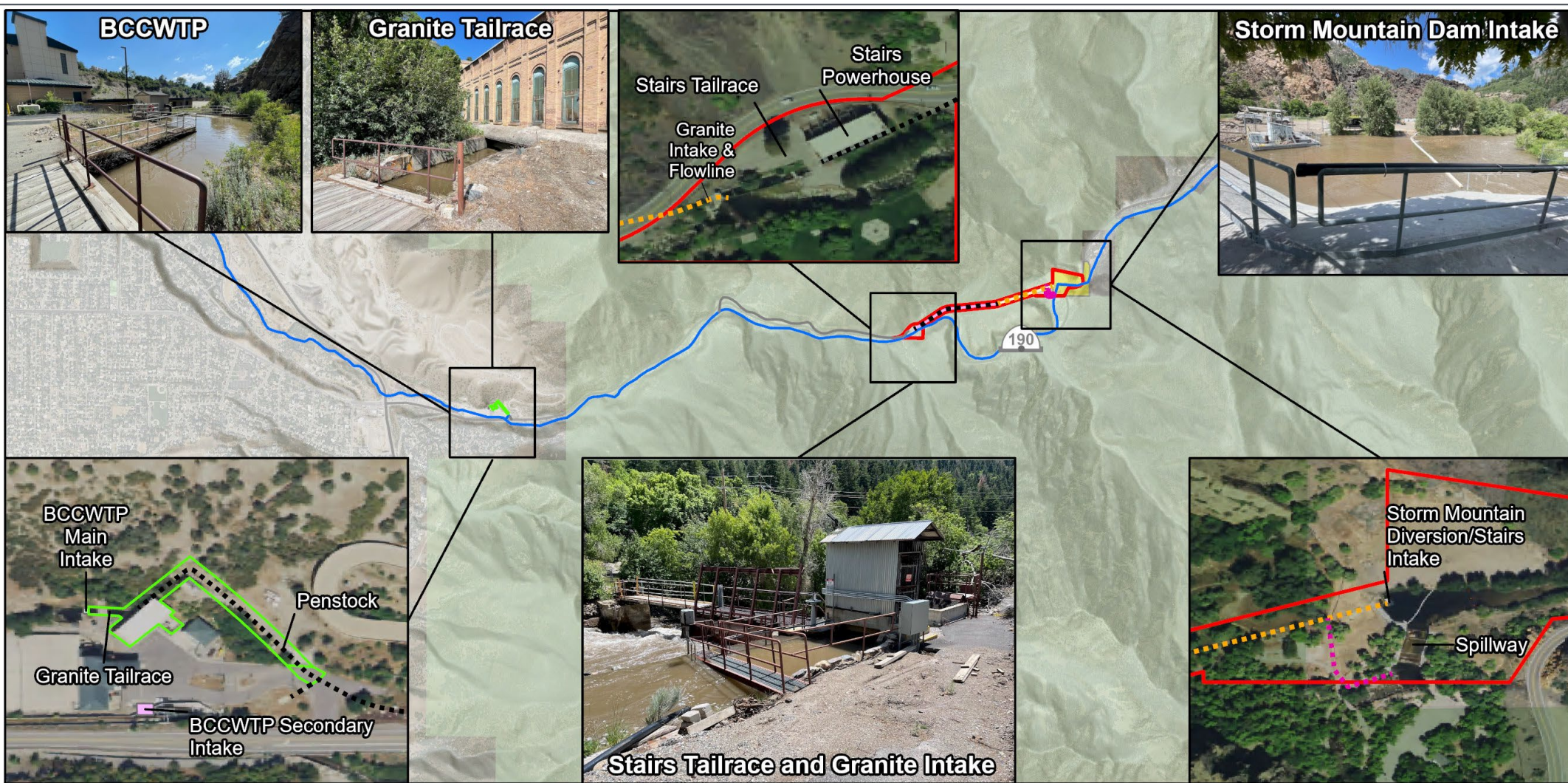
- **Currently the Project has a 30-year Major Project License, but PacifiCorp believes the Project now qualifies for a conduit exemption under FERC regulations**
- **18 CFR 4.90:** “small conduit hydroelectric facility” is exempt from relicensing requirements
- **18 CFR 4.30(b)(30):** requirements to be classified as a “small conduit hydroelectric facility”:
 - ✓ Utilized for electric power generation,
 - ✓ Installed capacity ≤ 40 MW,
 - ✓ Not be an integral part of a dam,
 - ✓ Not rely upon construction of a dam (unless constructed for agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumptive purposes), and
 - ✓ Must discharge the water it uses for power generation ... “directly to a point of agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumption”...

PacifiCorp's Proposed Action

- In-lieu of relicensing, PacifiCorp proposes to convert the Project to the more appropriate conduit exemption.
- Once conduit exemption is granted, PacifiCorp would surrender the current FERC Project license (corresponding actions) but retain ownership of the Project and continue to operate it in accordance with applicable FERC and State dam safety regulations as a small conduit exemption facility.
- *Note that all proposed changes are administrative— no physical changes are expected to any Project features whether retained in a new Project Boundary or not...*



Stairs Tailrace and Granite Intake



Stairs Project Features

- Minimum Flow Pipeline
- Flowline
- Penstock
- Stairs FERC Project Boundary (P-597)

Granite Project Features

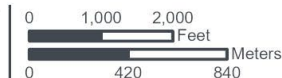
- Penstock
- Granite FERC Project Boundary (P-14293)

Land Ownership

- USFS
- PacifiCorp
- Other Private

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

Credits: USDA STATSGO
 Base Map: Esri ArcGIS Online,
 accessed March 2024
 Updated: 3/14/2024
 Project No. 79793
 Layout: SchematicMap_6x9
 Aprx: 78066_MapReports



1:40,000



SWCA
 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

PacifiCorp's Proposed Action (continued)

- Ongoing ownership, operation, and maintenance:
 - No construction of new facilities, physical changes to current facilities, or changes to Project operations or maintenance activities.
 - State and Federal dam safety standards would be retained.
 - Lands within the Project Boundary would continue to be managed by the respective property owners.
 - PacifiCorp would continue to consult annually with USFS.
 - PacifiCorp would continue to be the primary responsible entity for inspection and maintenance activities at the penstock, powerhouse, and associated features.

Storm Mountain Spillway



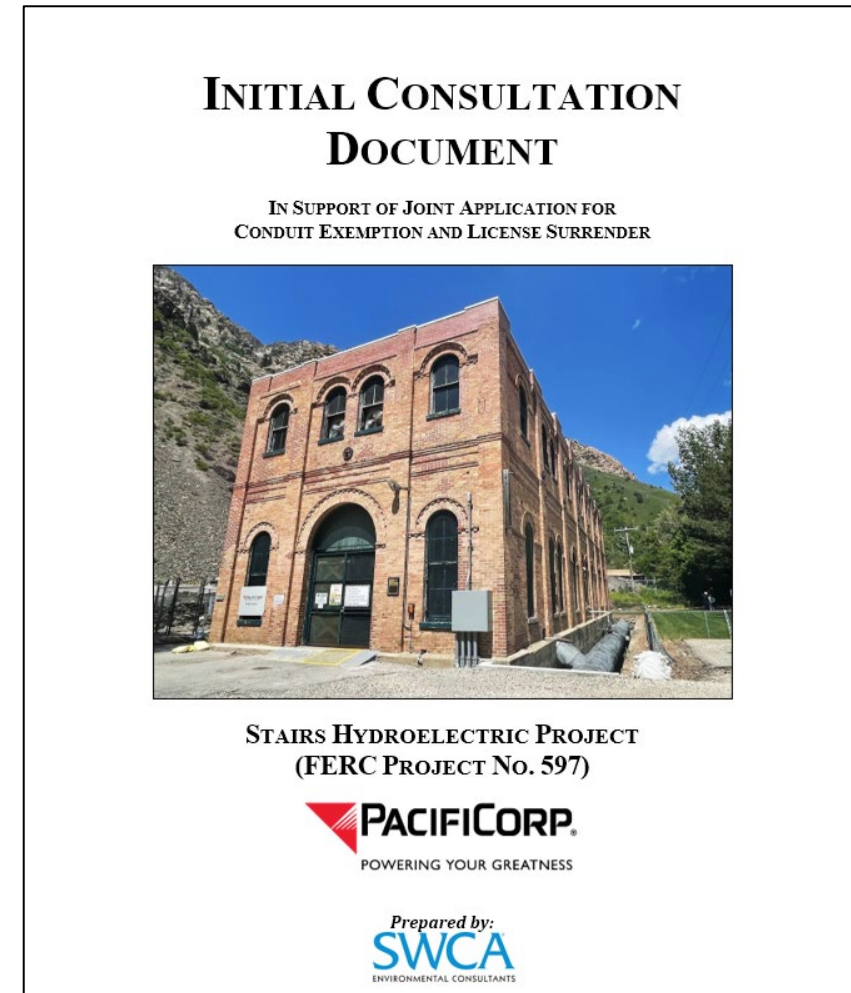
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

- Who is FERC and what is their purpose?
 - FERC is an independent agency that regulates the interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas, and oil.
- The Commission is authorized to carry out responsibilities under the FPA.
- A meeting recording and all written comments provided today will be submitted to FERC.
- FERC will make ultimate decision about proposed Project.



PacifiCorp's Initial Consultation Document

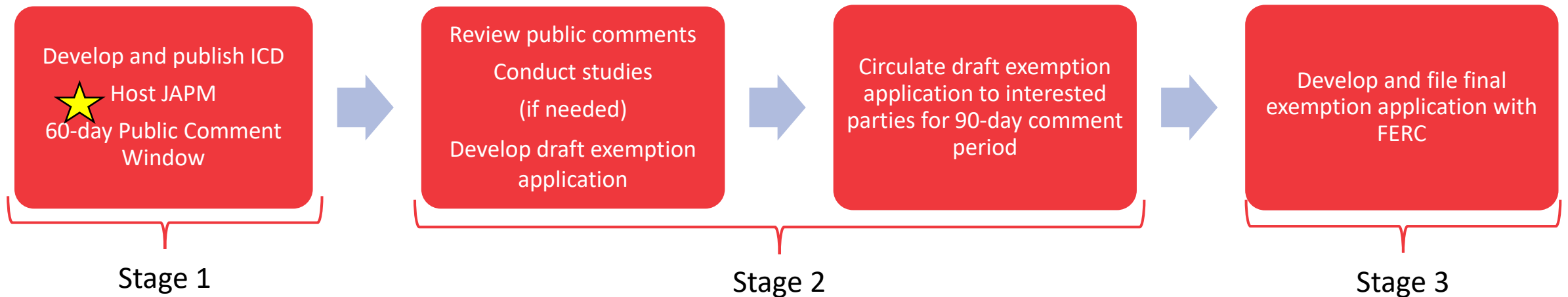
- PacifiCorp submitted its Initial Consultation Document (ICD) on February 16, 2024.
- Drafting and submitting the ICD is the first step in “3-Stage Consultation” and is required any time a licensee wants to change something substantive about the way their project currently operates, how it looks, or how it functions.
- The ICD is intended to summarize the existing information about the Pioneer Project and identify any potential impacts to resources from the Proposed Action, as well as information gaps, if any.



License Exemption and Surrender Process

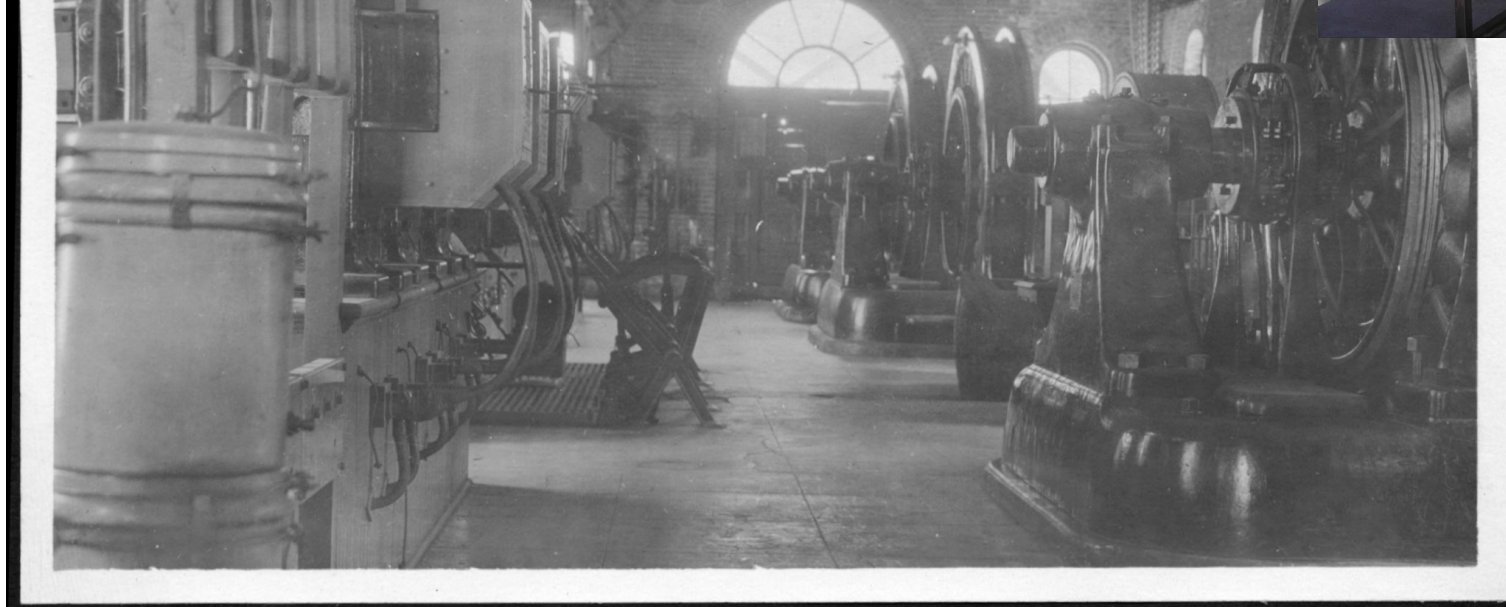
Title 18 CFR § 4.38: “3-stage” Consultation

3-stage consultation is required when there is a substantive proposed change or exemption to an existing license.



The Applicant must complete the pre-filing “3-stage” consultation requirements of 18 CFR 4.38 before submitting a license exemption and surrender application to FERC under 18 CFR 4.90.

Environmental Resources and Studies



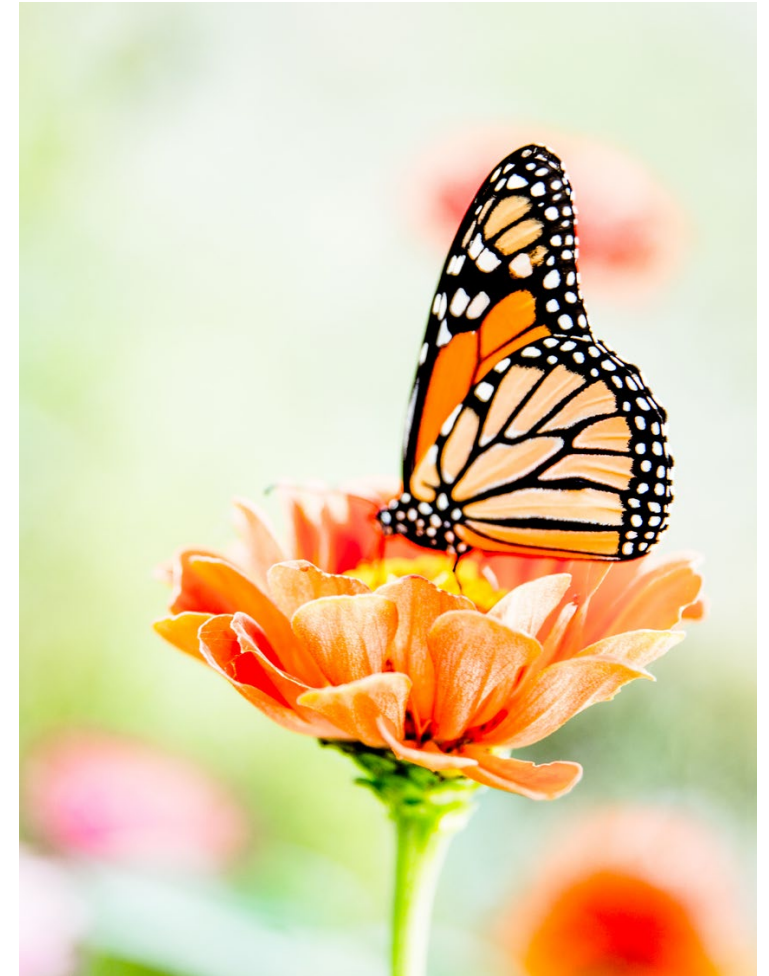
Need for Studies



- The Proposed Action is largely administrative.
 - There will be no construction of new facilities or changes to existing facilities, ownership, or operations and maintenance activities.
 - No environmental effects are anticipated.
- Therefore, PacifiCorp is not proposing studies at this time.

Wildlife, Botanical, and Fisheries Resources

- Wildlife and vegetation is typical of that found in the canyons of the Wasatch Front Range.
- No anadromous or special-status fish species are known to occur in the Project Area, with the exception of USFS and state-sensitive Bonneville Cutthroat Trout.
- PacifiCorp is proposing to maintain the existing 4 cfs minimum flow into the bypassed reach of Big Cottonwood Creek as required by the Project's current license to protect the aquatic resources present; the entire creek is diverted into BCCWTP just downstream of the Stairs Project.
- The monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) (candidate species) are known to occur in the Project Area. Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) (T&E species) has potential suitable habitat, but do not occur in the area surrounding the Project.
- PacifiCorp will maintain an aquatic invasive species management plan and a vegetation management plan.
- *No impacts to wildlife, botanical, or fisheries resources are anticipated.*



Monarch Butterfly

Water Resources

- Flows from Big Cottonwood Creek are diverted at the Storm Mountain Dam/intake then pass through a flowline and penstock to the Stairs Project.
- There are two major reaches of Big Cottonwood Creek:
 - The first reach is confined within Big Cottonwood Canyon and extends from Brighton, Utah, to the BCCWTP.
 - The second reach extends to the Jordan River from the BCCWTP.
- *No impacts to water use, quality, or quantity are anticipated.*

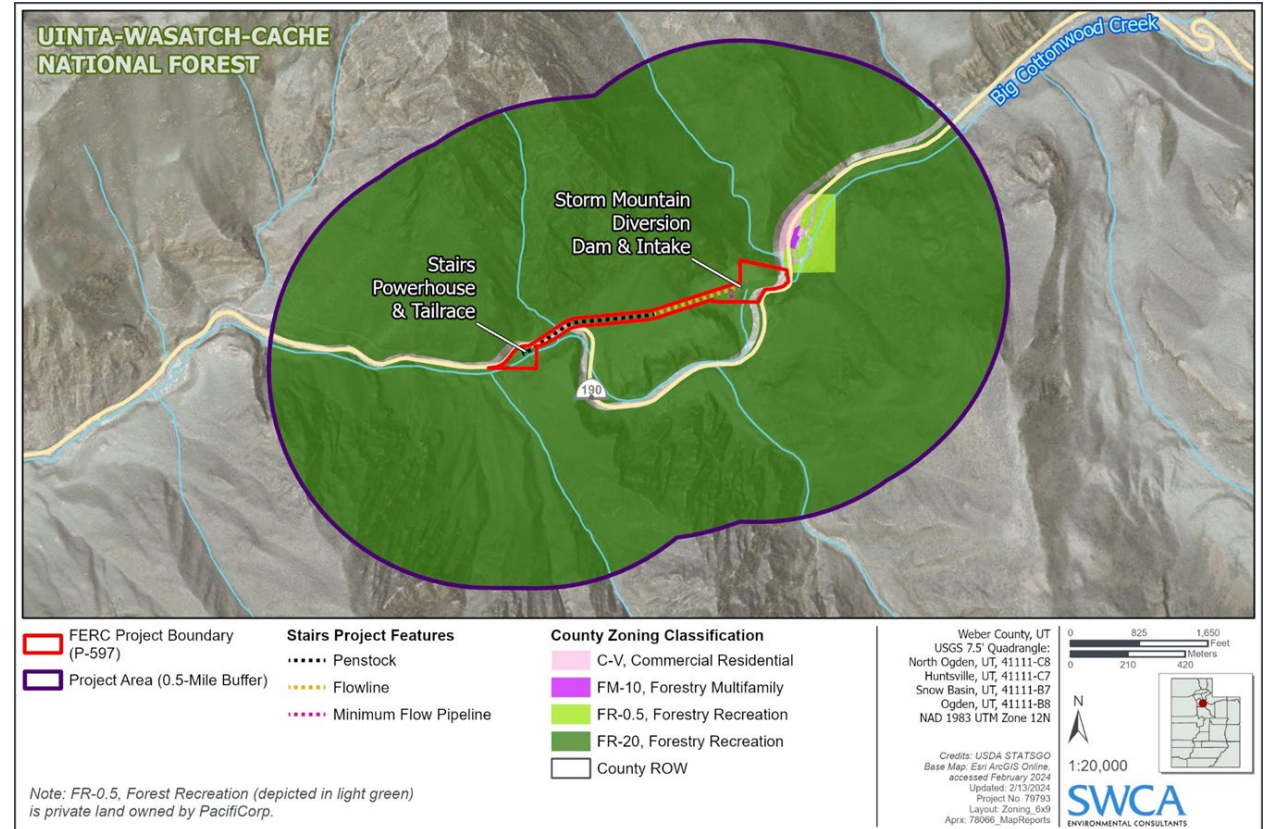


Big Cottonwood Creek Water Treatment Plant

Land Use, Visuals, and Geological Resources

- Visual Resources
 - The landscape is contained within the Semiarid Foothills ecoregion which includes lower mountain slopes, foothills, ridgetops, and alluvial fans.
- Geological Resources
 - The Project Area is dominated by white and green quartzite and purple and black shales.
 - Steep canyon walls and high annual snowfall contribute to erosive forces that shape the canyon.
- *No impacts to visual resources, geology, or land use are anticipated.*

Salt Lake County Zoning Classifications



Recreation Resources

- Most of the Project Area is surrounded by the Salt Lake Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The USFS manages many recreation facilities including the Storm Mountain Picnic Area.
- Common recreation activities within the Project Area include hiking, camping, fishing, mountain biking, rock climbing, and skiing.
- PacifiCorp plans to incorporate the Stairs Powerhouse Picnic Area into the Project Boundary and continue to maintain and offer the site by reservation only.
- *No impacts to recreation are anticipated.*



Storm Mountain and Stairs Picnic Areas in Big Cottonwood Canyon

Environmental Justice and Socioeconomic Resources

- Salt Lake County:
 - Total population: 1,185,238 people (2021)
 - Median household income: \$82,206
- Cottonwood Heights:
 - Total population: 33,597 people (2021)
 - Median household income: \$99,645
- The top industries in both Cottonwood Heights and Salt Lake County:
 - Educational services and health care and social services
 - Professional, scientific and management and administrative and waste management services
- Based on CEQ EJ guidelines, there are no EJ communities found within the Project Vicinity
- *No impacts to socioeconomic resources or EJ communities are anticipated*



Cultural and Historic Resources



Historic Stairs Plant Views

- The Stairs Hydroelectric Power Plant Historic District is within the Project Boundary.
- The wider Project Area encompasses no federally recognized Tribal lands.
- FERC has designated PacifiCorp as the non-federal representative for Section 106 consultation.
- PacifiCorp proposes to develop, implement, and maintain an Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP).
- *No impacts to historic and cultural resources are anticipated.*

Proposed Protection, Mitigation, & Enhancement (PM&E) Measures

RESOURCE AREA	PROPOSED PME MEASURES
Fisheries	Maintain the existing 4 cfs minimum flow into the bypassed reach of Big Cottonwood Creek as required by the Project's current license to protect the aquatic resources present.
Recreation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Continue annual consultation meeting with the USFS.2) Fully incorporate the Stairs Powerhouse Picnic Area into the Project Boundary; continue to maintain and offer site by reservation.
Cultural Resources	Develop, implement, and maintain an HPMP.
Public Safety	Continued adherence to Federal dam safety standards would be retained.

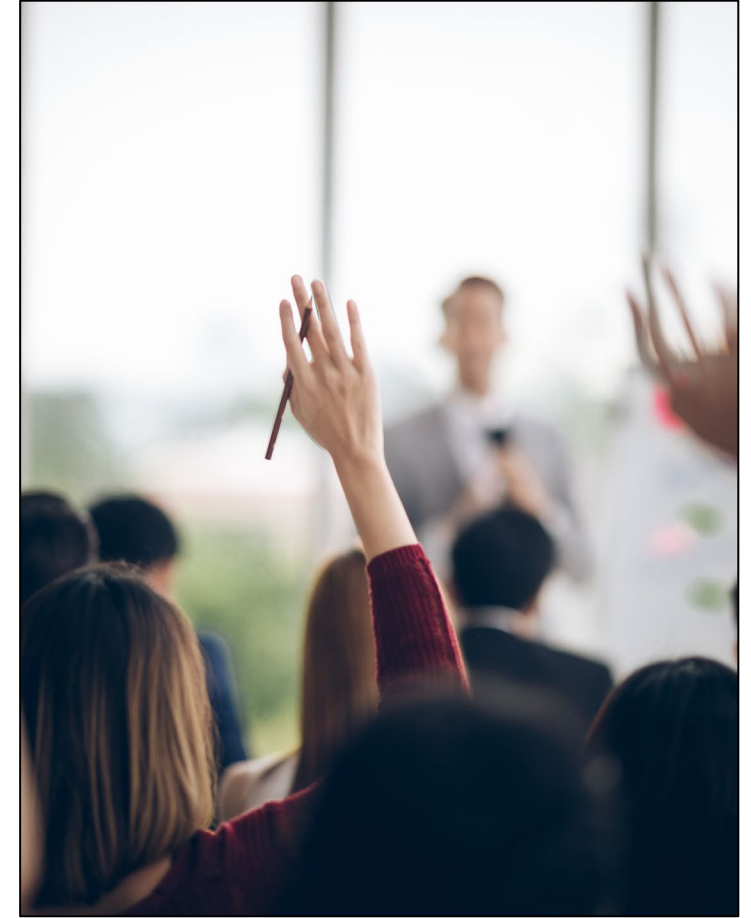
Stairs License Exemption Process: Tentative Schedule

Responsible Entity	Milestone	Estimated Milestone Date
<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	2/16/2024
FERC	FERC issues notice of approval of non-federal representative designation for informal consultation	Expected March 2024
PacifiCorp	Provide notification of joint agency and public meeting (JAPM) meeting location and timing	15 days in advance of JAPM
PacifiCorp/Stakeholders	JAPM and site visit	3/21/2024
FERC/Stakeholders	<i>Comments Due:</i> Initial Consultation Document <i>Deadline:</i> Proposed Study Requests	5/20/2024
<i>Stage 2 Consultation § 4.38(c)</i>		
PacifiCorp	Circulate draft application for Conduit Exemption and License Surrender to interested parties	May 2024
<i>Stage 3 Consultation § 4.38(d)</i>		
PacifiCorp	Submit final Application for Small Conduit Exemption and License Surrender	Late Summer 2024
FERC	FERC issues an order exempting the license and license surrender (subject to change)	TBD

Workshop Resource Station List: Breakout Sessions



- Project Location and Schematic Station
- Mitigation Measures (PME Station)
- FERC Process Station
- Wildlife/Vegetation/Fisheries Resources Station
- Recreation Resources Station
- Historic/Cultural Station

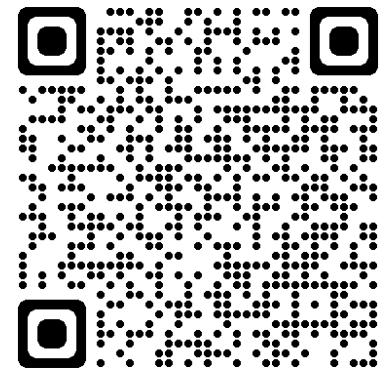




Thank you!

To access the ICD, please go to: <https://www.pacificorp.com/energy/hydro/stairs.html>

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



ATTACHMENT A-5

OPEN HOUSE POSTERS AND COMMENTS

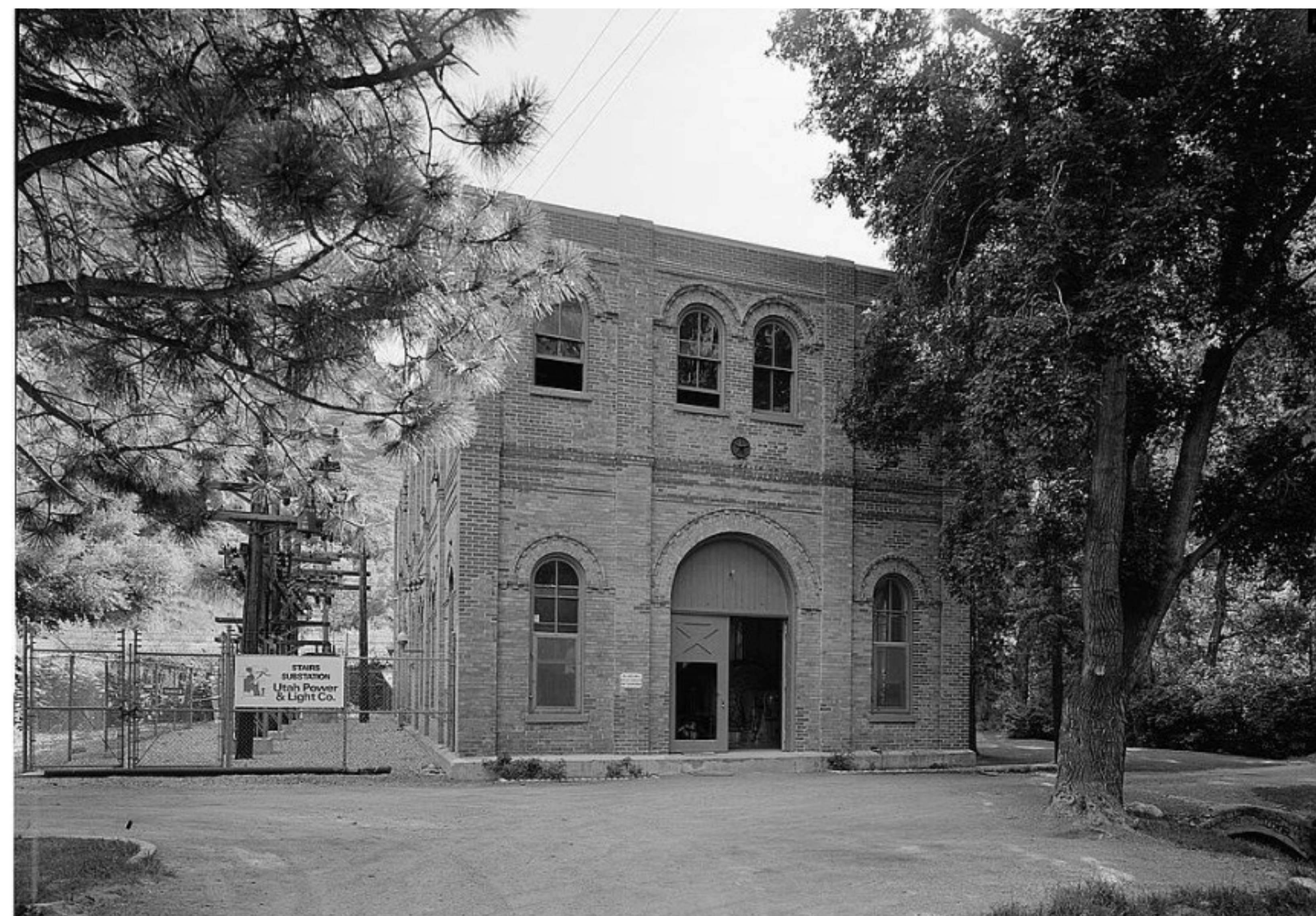
Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)

Joint Agency and Public Meeting

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

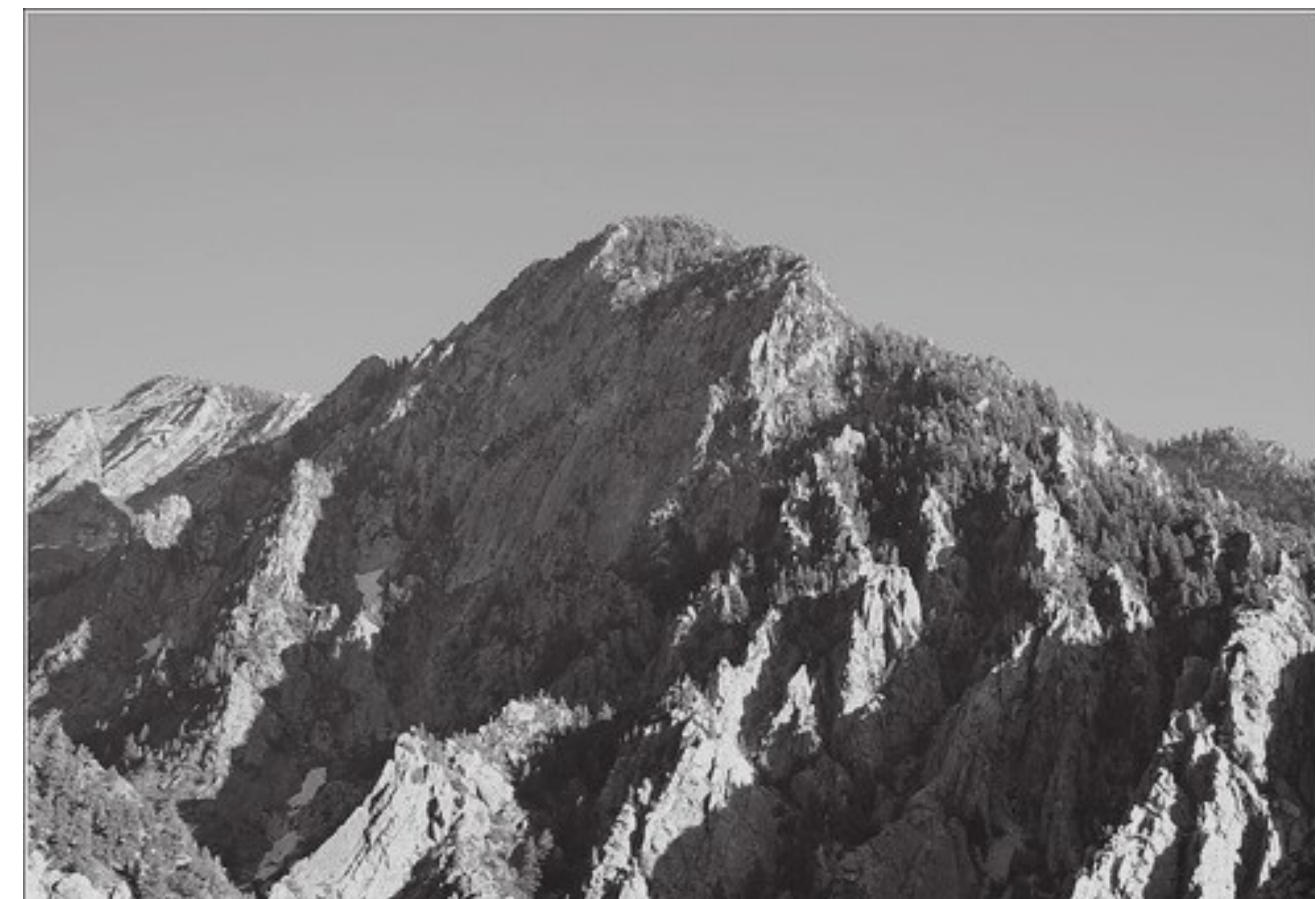
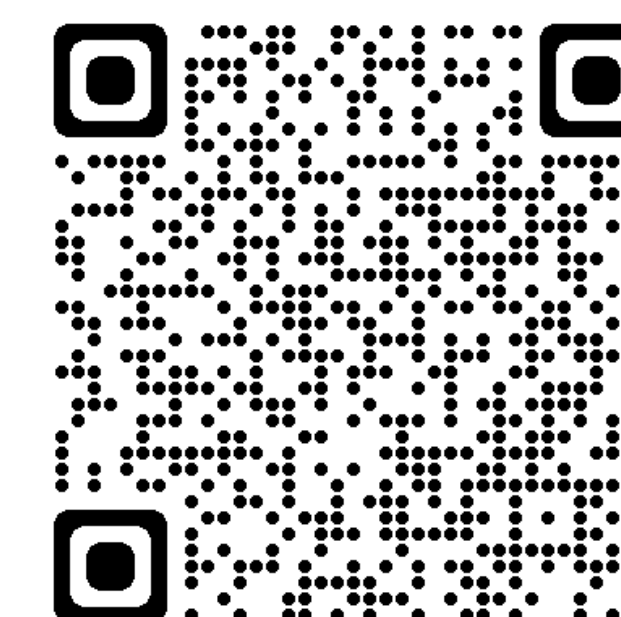
Cultural and Historic Resources

- In 1848, American settlers moved into the area that would become Cottonwood Heights, near the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon.
- Construction of the Stairs Project began in 1894 and was completed in May 1896.
- The Project Area is within traditional Ute and Eastern Shoshone Tribal territory. The Utes, Shoshone, Goshutes, and Paiutes are all federally recognized Tribes that may have cultural or religious connection to the lands in the Project Area.
- The Project Area does not currently encompass any federally recognized Tribal reservation lands.
- No impacts to historic or cultural resources are anticipated.



Want More Information?

Scan the code below to learn more about the Stairs Hydroelectric Project Conduit Exemption process.



Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)

Joint Agency and Public Meeting

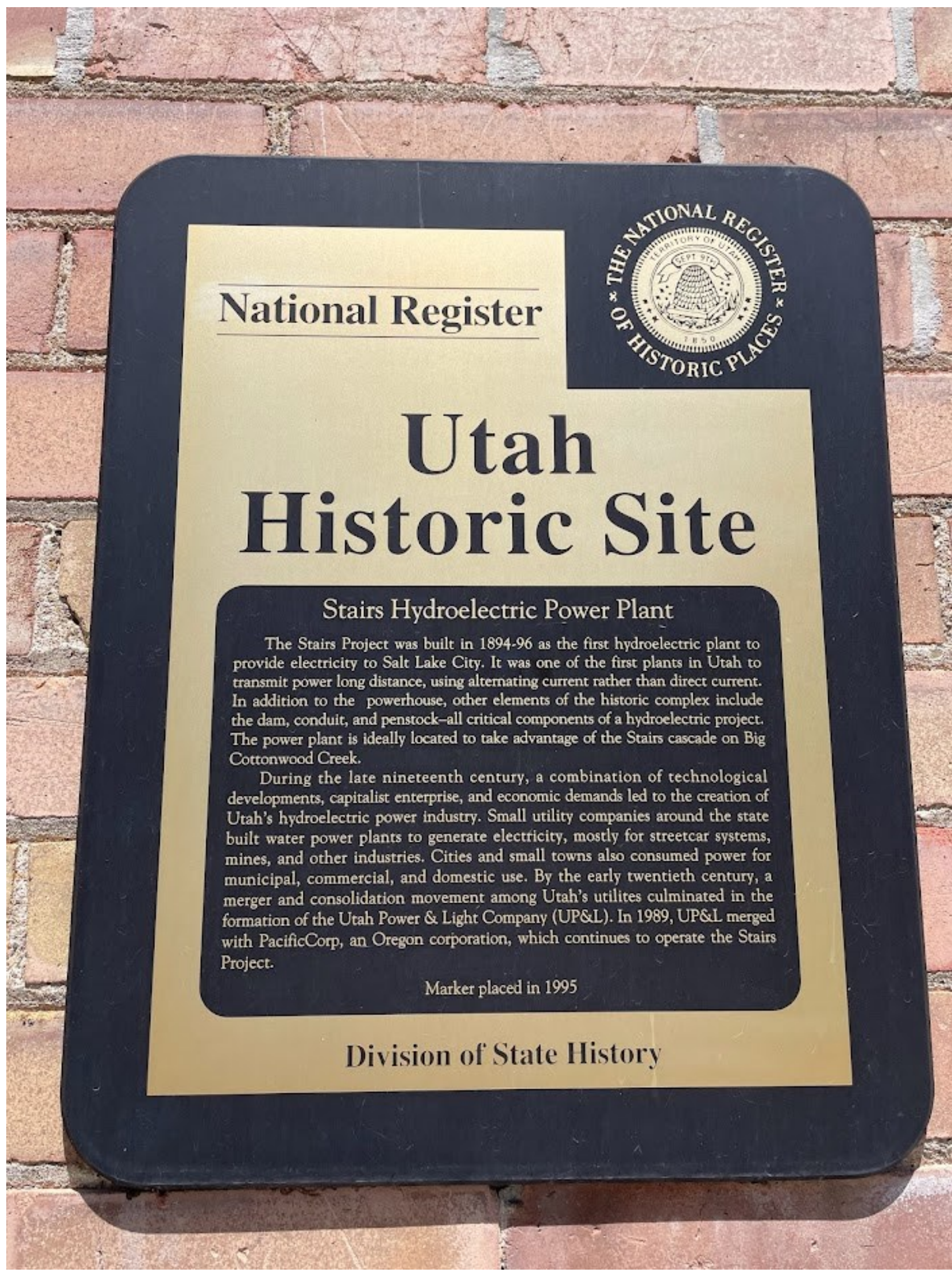
PROPOSED PROTECTION, MITIGATION, & ENHANCEMENT (PM&E) MEASURES

Resource Area	Proposed PME Measures
Fisheries	Maintain the existing 4 cfs minimum flow into the bypassed reach of Big Cottonwood Creek as required by the Project’s current license to protect aquatic and aesthetic resources.
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue annual meeting with the USFS to discuss planned maintenance affecting forest lands.Incorporate the Stairs Powerhouse Picnic Area into the Project Boundary; continue to maintain and offer site by reservation.
Cultural Resources	Develop, implement, and maintain an HPMP to guide continued cultural resource protection and management of historical properties within the Stairs Hydroelectric Project Historical District.

Stairs Minimum Flow Outlet



Stairs Powerhouse Historical Site

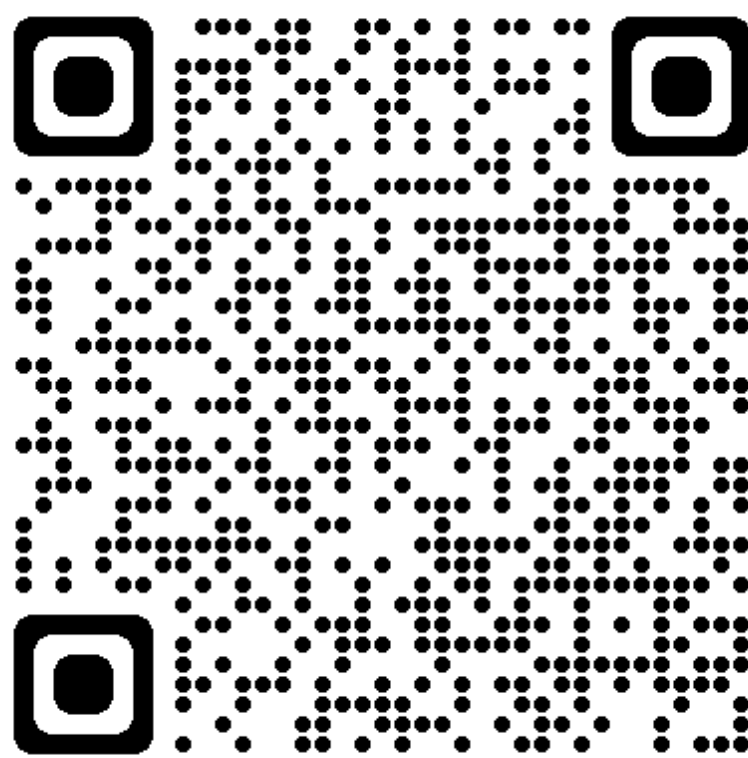


Stairs Powerhouse Picnic Area



Want More Information?

Scan the code to learn more about the
Stairs Hydroelectric Project Conduit
Exemption process.



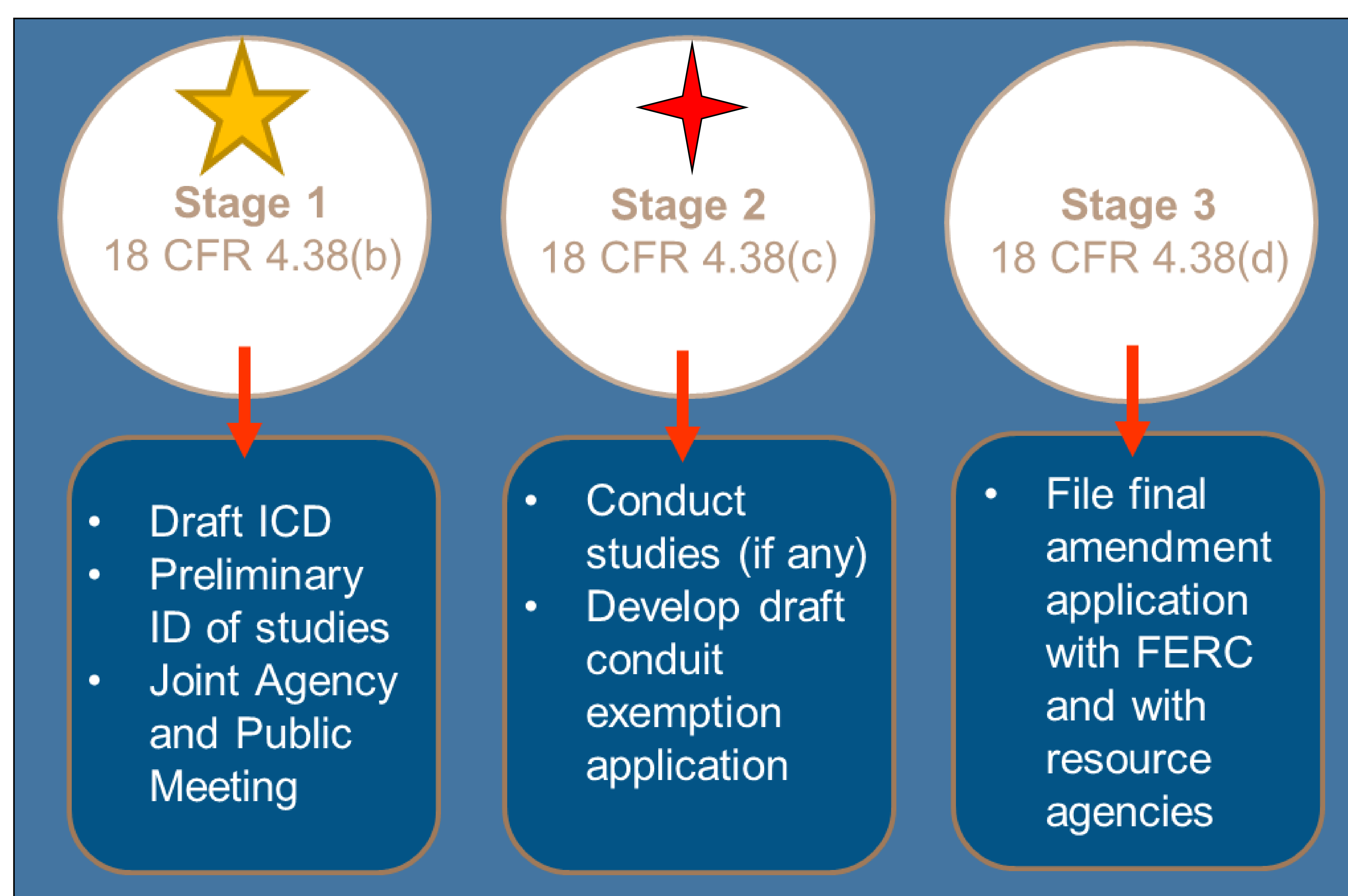
Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)

Joint Agency and Public Meeting

FERC PROCESS OVERVIEW

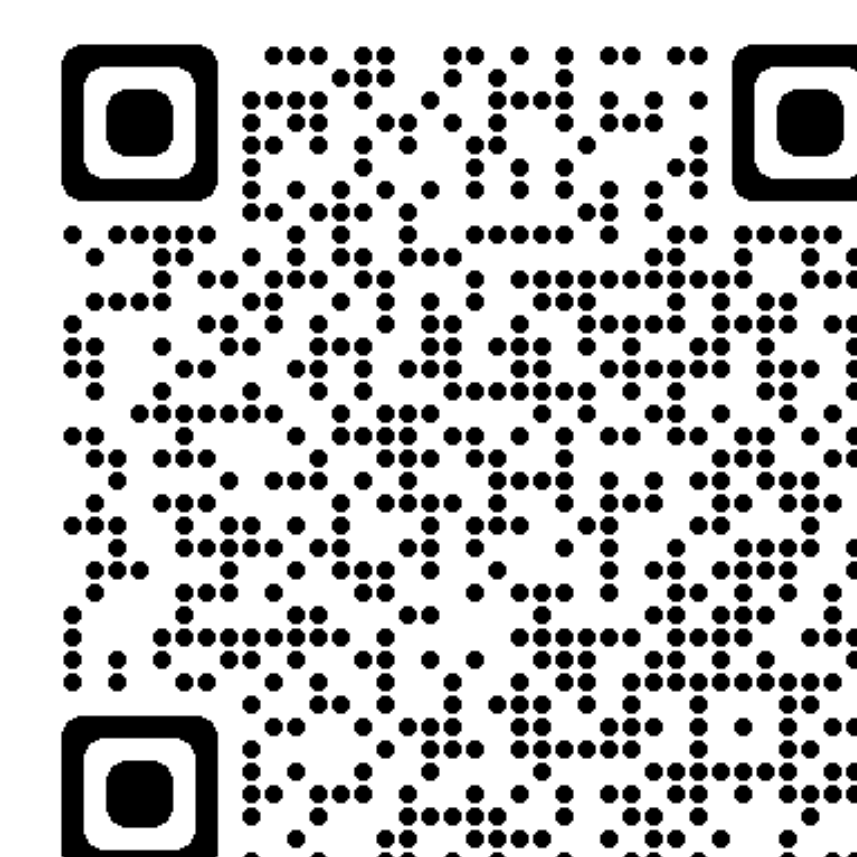
Regulatory Triggers

- 18 CFR 4.90: “small conduit hydroelectric facility” may be exempt from additional relicensing requirements.
- 18 CFR 4.38 “3-Stage” Consultation is required when there is a proposed change or exemption to an existing license.
- 18 CFR 4.30(b)(30): Defines requirements to be classified as a “small conduit hydroelectric facility”:
 - ✓ Used for power generation
 - ✓ Installed capacity \leq 40 MW
 - ✓ Not an integral part of a dam
 - ✓ Not reliant upon construction of a dam (unless constructed for agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumptive purposes).
 - ✓ Must discharge the water is uses for power generation ... “directly to a point of agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumption.”



Want More Information?

Scan the code below to learn more about the Stairs Hydroelectric Project Conduit Exemption process.



★ PacifiCorp proposes to waive the study component of Stage 2 as no resource impacts are expected.

Next Steps — Spring 2024

- ICD comments and proposed study requests are due by May 20th, 2024.
- Draft Amendment Application (anticipated May 2024); Final Amendment Application to follow (at earliest feasible date, Summer 2024).

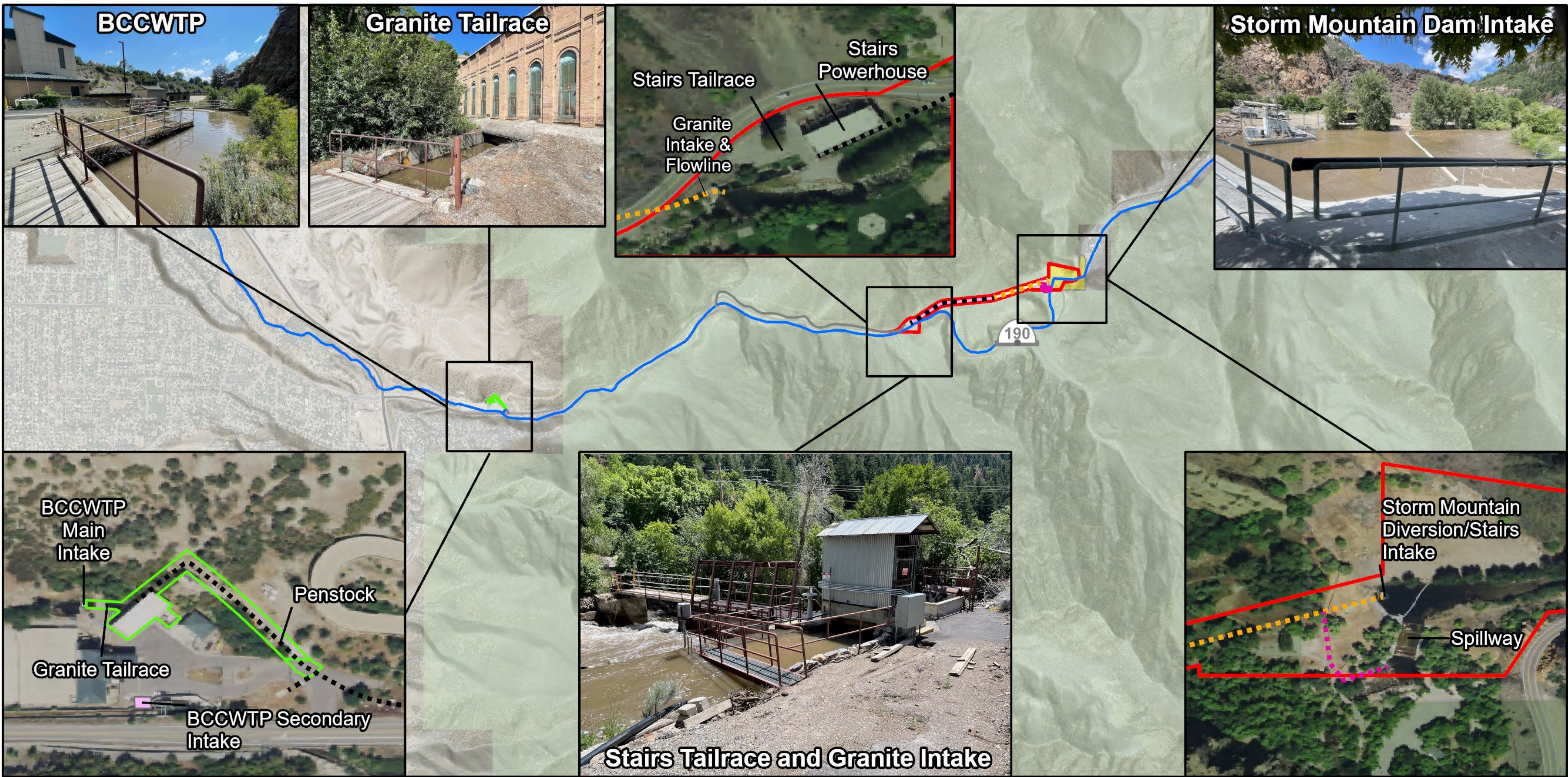
How to Provide Input

1. Review the Initial Consultation Document (ICD) for further detail.
2. Submit comments to FERC and PacifiCorp **no later than Monday, May 20th, 2024.**
 - File comments directly using FERC’s eFiling or eComment system.
 - Email comments to PacifiCorp (Eve.Davies@PacifiCorp.com).

Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)

Joint Agency and Public Meeting

PROJECT LOCATION



Stairs Project Features

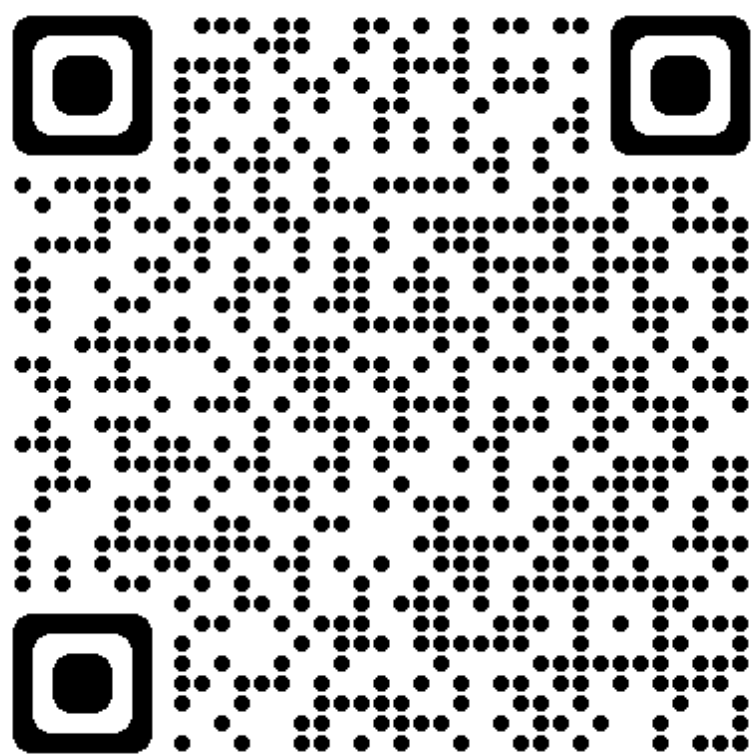
- Minimum Flow Pipeline
- Flowline
- Penstock
- Stairs FERC Project Boundary (P-597)

Granite Project Features

- Penstock
- Granite FERC Project Boundary (P-14293)

Land Ownership

- USFS
- PacifiCorp
- Other Private

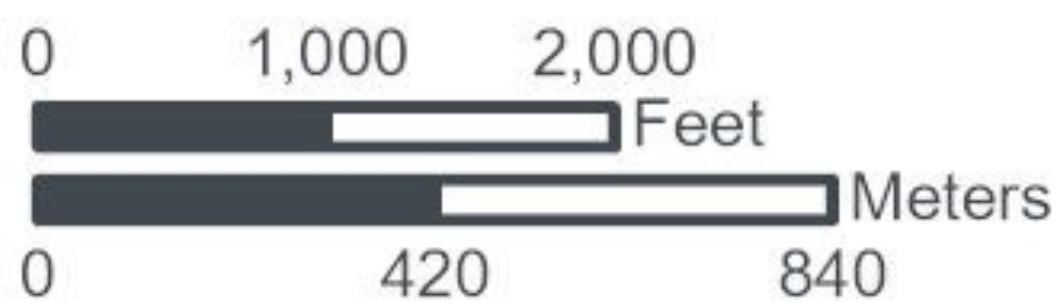


Want More Information?

Scan the code above to learn more about the Stairs Hydroelectric Project Conduit Exemption process.

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

Credits: USDA STATSGO
Base Map: Esri ArcGIS Online,
accessed March 2024
Updated: 3/14/2024
Project No. 79793
Layout: SchematicMap_6x9
Aprx: 78066_MapReports



1:40,000

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

PROJECT OVERVIEW & PROCESS

RECREATION

- MOU/MOA w/ USFS to continue annual consultation and 4cfs min. flow
- Include more interested parties (example: Trout Unlimited) at the Stairs annual consultation meeting
- Including Trout Unlimited on annual flow reporting and/or making flow reporting more accessible

Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)

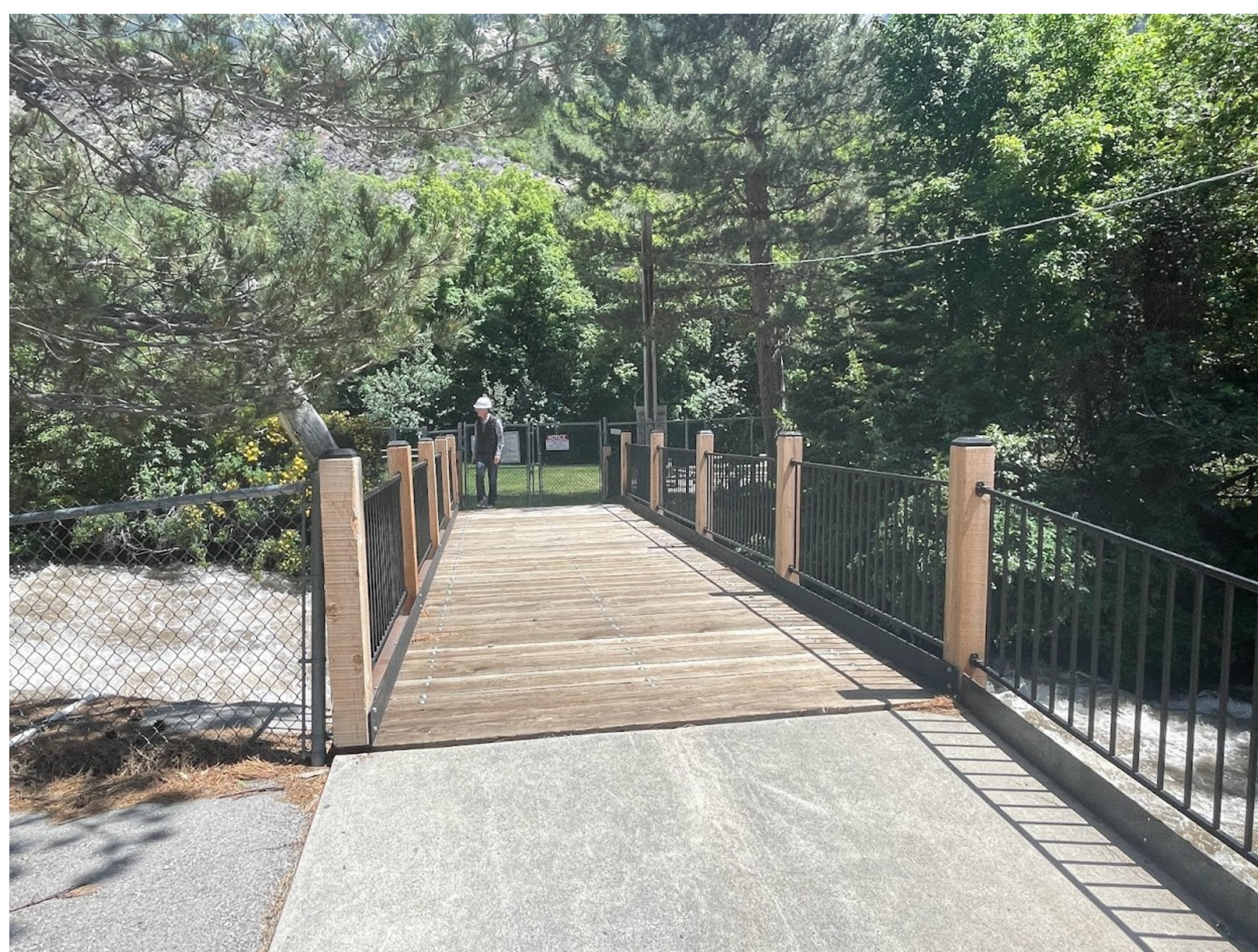
Joint Agency and Public Meeting

RECREATION RESOURCES



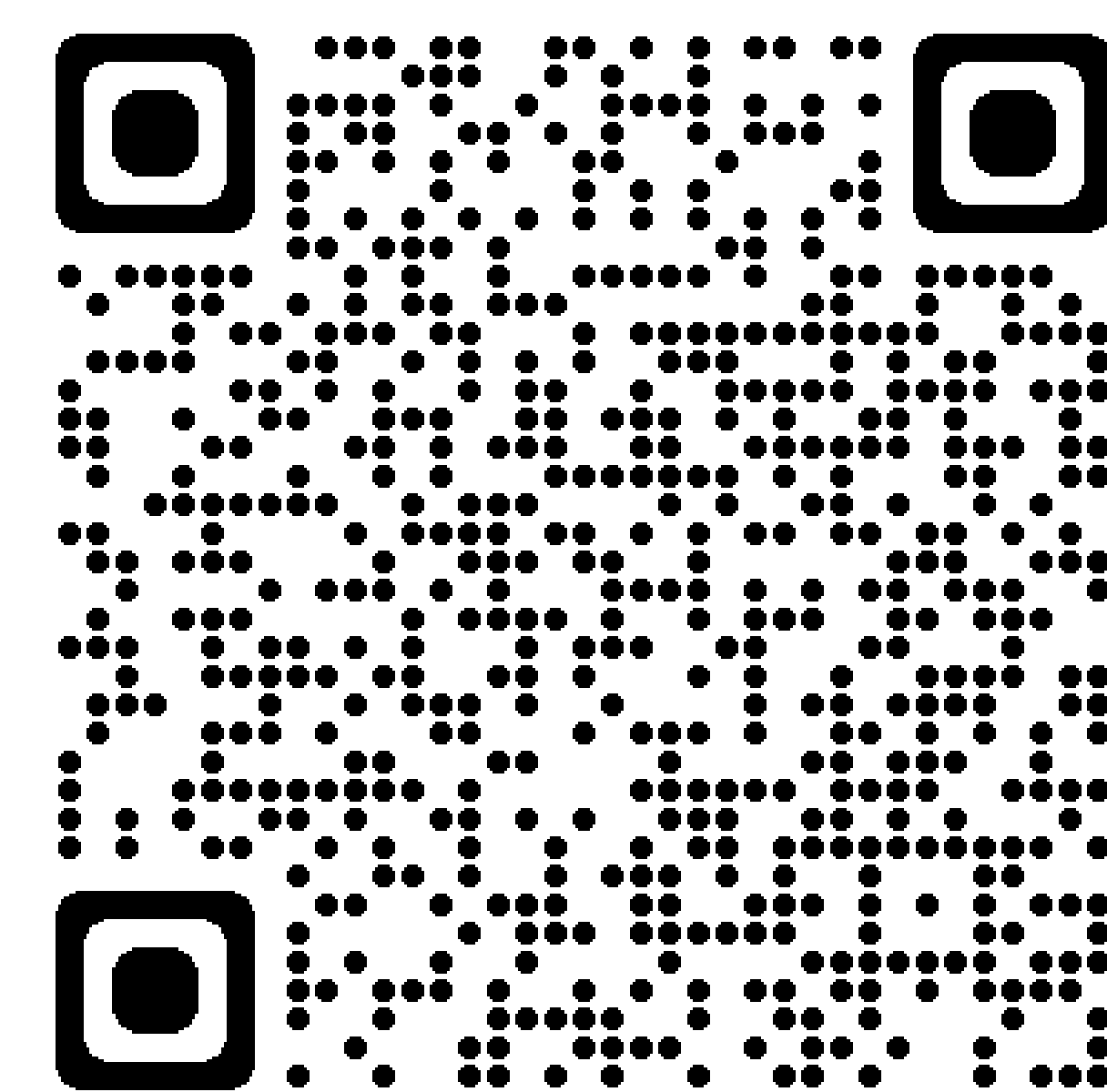
Recreation

- The Stairs Powerhouse Picnic Area (pictured top left and right) is USFS land managed by PacifiCorp, and is located adjacent to the Stairs Powerhouse.
- PacifiCorp has developed and maintains the Stairs Powerhouse Picnic Area. The picnic area is south of and across the creek from the Stairs Project powerhouse (bottom left). The picnic area is only available for use by reservation.
- The picnic area is ADA accessible, can accommodate up to 150 people, and offers 11 picnic tables, 2 large grills, a fire pit, horseshoe pits, a volleyball court, and limited parking for up to 10 vehicles.
- No impacts to recreation are anticipated.



Want More Information?

Scan the code below to learn more about the Stairs Hydroelectric Project Conduit Exemption process.



Stairs Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 597)

Joint Agency and Public Meeting

VEGETATION, FISHERIES, & WILDLIFE RESOURCES



Source: usfws.gov



Wildlife

- The larger area surrounding the Project provides suitable habitat for a variety of terrestrial wildlife, such as mammals (including mule deer) birds, reptiles, and amphibians.
- The Monarch butterfly (bottom left) is the only federally-listed special status wildlife species with suitable habitat in the Project Boundary.



Fisheries

- Big Cottonwood Creek (pictured top left) is a perennial stream that is a tributary to the Jordan River.
- Big Cottonwood Creek houses several species of trout, including the state and USFS-listed sensitive Bonneville cutthroat trout, Utah's state fish (pictured top right).
- Fisheries habitat downstream of Stairs Powerhouse is limited due to the development of Big Cottonwood Creek as Salt Lake City's main supply of drinking water (see Project Schematic figure).

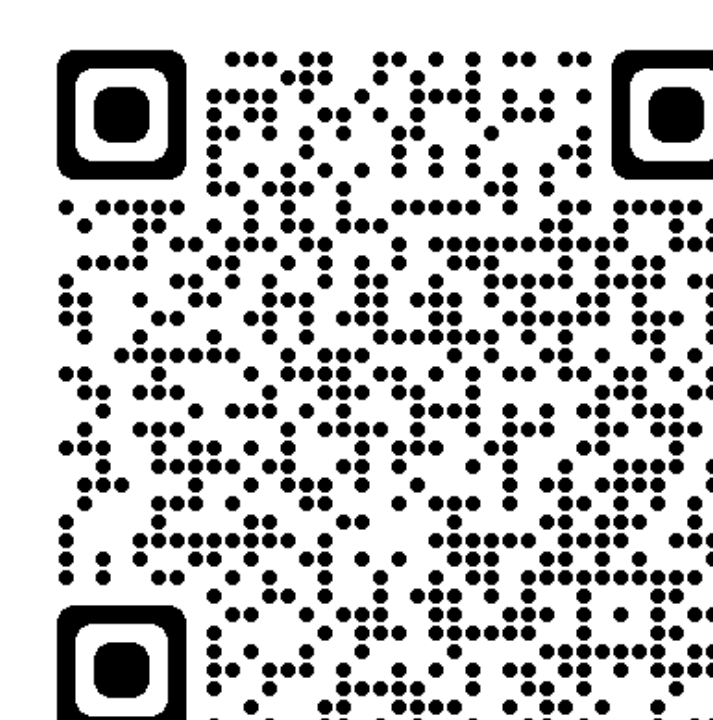
Vegetation

- Outside the narrow riparian zone along Big Cottonwood Creek (pictured top left), upland vegetation generally consists of bigtooth maple and Gambel oak scrub, Douglas fir and aspen, and other shrubs and grasses.
- There are 3 federally-listed special status vegetation species with suitable habitat in the larger area surrounding the Project; no species have suitable habitat within the Project Boundary: Wasatch draba (*Draba brachystylis*), Burke's draba (*Draba burkei*), and Wasatch pepperwort (*Lepidium montanum* var. *aplinum*).

No impacts to wildlife, fisheries, or vegetation are expected.

Want More Information?

Scan the code to learn more about the Stairs Hydroelectric Project Conduit Exemption process.

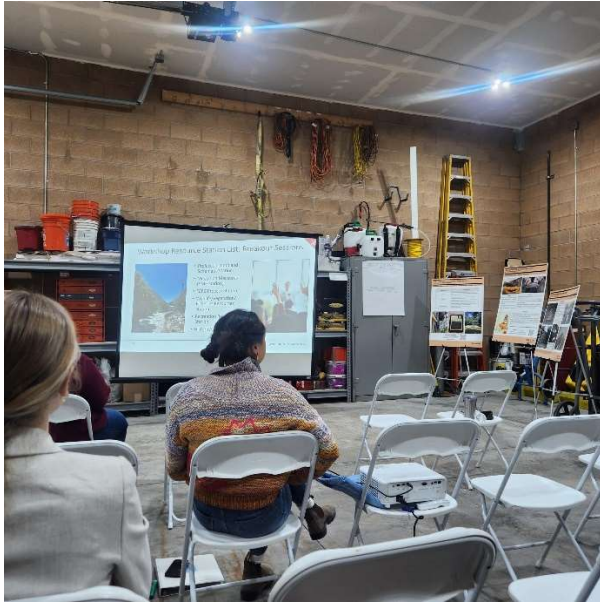


WILDLIFE & VEGETATION

CULTURAL & HISTORIC

ATTACHMENT A-6

OPEN HOUSE AND SITE VISIT PHOTOS



STAIRS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (FERC PROJECT NO. 597)

DISTRIBUTION LIST

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Congressman John Curtis 3549 North University Avenue Suite 275 Provo, UT 84604 (801) 922-5400	Utah Public Service Commission P.O. Box 4558 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4558 psc@utah.gov
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Eric McCulley Chair Jordan River Watershed Council bmcculley@usbr.gov	Spencer Cox Governor Office of the Governor 350 N State St. Suite 200 801-538-1000
State of Utah Office of the Attorney General PO Box 142320 SLC UT 84114-2320 uag@agutah.gov	Julius Murray Chairman Ute Indian Tribe 899 S 7500 E Ft. Duchesne, UT 84026 juliusm@utetribe.com

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<p>Candace Bear Chairperson (Incoming) Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians 1198 N Main St. Toole, UT 84029 candaceb@svgoshutes.com</p>	<p>Daniel Moon Chairperson (Outgoing) Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians 1198 N Main St. Toole, UT 84029 Danielm@svgoshutes.com</p>
<p>Corrina Bow Chairperson Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah Tribal Council 440 N Paiute Dr. Cedar City, UT 84721 cbow@utahpaiutes.org</p>	<p>Dennis Alex Tribal Chairman Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation 2575 Commerce Way Ogden, UT 84401 dalex@nwbsshoshone.com</p>
<p>Lee Tyler Chairman (Incoming) Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation lt Tyler@sbtribes.com</p>	<p>Nathan Small Chairman (Outgoing) Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation nsmall@sbtribes.com</p>
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<p>George Weekley Deputy Field Office Supervisor U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service- Utah Field Office 2369 Orton Circle, Suite 50 West Valley City, Utah 84119 801-554-7660 george_weekley@fws.gov</p>	<p>Dannette Weiss Biologist, Energy U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services 801-975-3330 dannette_weiss@fws.gov</p>
<p>Jodi Gardberg Manager, Watershed Protection Section Utah Division of Water Quality 195 North 1950 West Salt Lake City, UT 84116 jgardberg@utah.gov</p>	<p>Chris Merritt State Historic Preservation Officer Utah State History 300 S Rio Grande St. Salt Lake City, UT 84101 cmerritt@utah.gov</p>

<p>Chris Hansen Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Compliance Utah State History 300 S Rio Grande St. Salt Lake City, UT 84101 801-245-7239 clhansen@utah.gov</p>	<p>Teresa Gray Water Quality and Hazardous Waste Manager Big Cottonwood Creek Water Treatment Plant 801-483-6744 teresa.gray@slcgov.com</p>
<p>Michelle Berry Water Treatment Engineer Big Cottonwood Creek Water Treatment Plant Address Michelle.Barry@slcgov.com</p>	<p>Mike Slater Regional Aquatics Program Manager Utah Department of Water Resources 801-491-5651 michaelslater@utah.gov</p>
<p>Tamara Prue Big Cottonwood Creek Water Treatment Plant - Salt Lake City Government tamara.prue@slcgov.com</p>	<p>Chris Crockett Aquatics Program Manager, Central Region Office Utah Department of Natural Resources chriscrockett@utah.gov</p>
<p>Chris Chaney Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (202) 502-6778 Christopher.chaney@ferc.gov</p>	<p>Connely Baldwin Water Resources Engineer/Hydrologist PacifiCorp connely.baldwin@pacificorp.com</p>
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Charlotte Garris SWCA Environmental Consultants charlotte.garris@swca.com	
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