



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salt Lake Field Office

2370 S Decker Lake Blvd.

West Valley City, UT 84119-2022 <http://www.blm.gov/utah>



In Reply Refer To:  
8130/2800 (UTW010)

Subject: Invitation to Participate as a Consulting Party on the Non-Motorized Trail Development in the Lake Mountains, North Oquirrh Management Area, and Rose and Yellow Fork Canyons Project

The Salt Lake Field Office (SLFO) of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is beginning the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the Non-Motorized Trail Development in the Lake Mountains, North Oquirrh Management Area (NOMA) and Rose and Yellow Fork Canyons project, including its environmental assessment (EA). This letter serves as a formal invitation to participate in project planning as a Consulting Party during the preparation of the EA. I have enclosed a project description and maps for your review.

The BLM recognizes you as an appropriate Consulting Party under Section 106 of the NHPA<sup>1</sup>. Consulting parties play a key role in the Section 106 compliance process. The input of consulting parties helps to ensure that a broad array of perspectives are considered in the evaluation of the potential effect of an undertaking on historic properties. In addition, consulting parties can make important contributions to the development of strategies for mitigating any adverse effects to historic properties.

I would like to invite you to a project kickoff meeting via Microsoft Teams. I have tentatively scheduled the Cooperating Agencies meeting on June 25, 2020 from 10:00 AM until 11:30 AM; additional correspondence will be provided via email.

At this meeting, we will describe the proposed action, the Section 106 process, the role of consulting parties, and the potential effects of the proposed undertaking on historic properties. During the meeting, each consulting party will be afforded a specific timeframe to address

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<sup>1</sup> This project is an "undertaking" as defined in 36 CFR 800 and therefore compliance with Section 106 of NHPA is required. This compliance includes the participation of "consulting parties" per 36 CFR 800.2(c).

COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WYOMING

Sincerely,

Allison Ginn  
Acting Field Manager

Enclosures:  
Project Description Project  
Maps

## **Project Description**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) to analyze the development of non-motorized trails to facilitate outdoor recreation opportunities on BLM-managed lands within three areas (maps are enclosed) including:

- 1) Lake Mountains, Utah County. Approximately 17,250 acres in Township 5 South, Range 1 West; Township 6 South, Range 1 West; Township 7 South, Range 1 West; Township 7 South, Range 1 East; Salt Lake Meridian.
- 2) North Oquirrh Management Area, Tooele County. Approximately 5,285 acres in Township 1 South, Range 4 West; Township 2 South, Range 4 West; Township 2 South, Range 3 West; Township 3 South, Range 4 West; Township 3 South, Range 3 West Salt Lake Meridian; west of the ridgeline and at elevations lower than approximately 6,200 feet.
- 3) Rose and Yellow Fork Canyons, Salt Lake County. Approximately 1,520 acres in Township 4 South, Range 2 West.

The BLM recognizes the importance of providing quality recreation experiences on public lands that are adjacent to growing population centers. The project would not change the availability of any existing motorized access but would facilitate the expansion of a non-motorized trail system that support hiking, biking, horseback riding, or other human-powered recreational uses. The trails would most likely be authorized under a right-of-way to a municipal government or other partner organization, and/or may be built with BLM and volunteer labor.

The BLM is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, 43 CFR 2800, and other implementing regulations. The EA would analyze the anticipated environmental impacts from the development of non-motorized trails that could be situated to avoid or minimize impacts to identified sensitive resources within the overall project area. Trail development would follow industry standards such as Guidelines for a Quality Trail Experience (BLM, IMBA 2017)<sup>1</sup> and comply with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas<sup>2</sup>, as appropriate. Trail tread width would generally be between 12-36” wide; trails could be sited to avoid mature vegetation such as tall trees or bushes, but vegetation would be cleared for approximately 2-4 feet on either side of the trail. The BLM is also considering how to best comply with Secretarial Order 3376 – Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the Use of Electric Bikes<sup>3</sup>; the current proposed action would consider the use of Class 1 electric bicycles on appropriate trails.

The BLM anticipates that up to 25 miles of new, single-track, non-motorized trails would be constructed within the Lake Mountains, up to 15 miles would be constructed within the NOMA, and up to 10 miles would be constructed within Rose and Yellow Fork Canyons. The BLM will also consider associated needs for access easements from willing adjacent landowners, parking,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/Guidelines-for-a-Quality-Trail-Experience-2017.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/recreation-facilities/outdoor-developed-areas/finalguidelines-for-outdoor-developed-areas>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/elips/documents/so\\_3376\\_-\\_increasing\\_recreational\\_opportunities\\_through\\_the\\_use\\_of\\_electric\\_bikes\\_-508\\_0.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/elips/documents/so_3376_-_increasing_recreational_opportunities_through_the_use_of_electric_bikes_-508_0.pdf)

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signage and interpretive or area information, and for the sanitary disposal of human waste, which may necessitate the development of restroom facilities.

The BLM will identify appropriate stipulations to protect cultural resources, wildlife habitat, water quality, soils and vegetation, and other resources, and disclose impacts to resources that are present with a potential for relevant impact that need to be analyzed in detail in the EA.

In order to protect human safety, the BLM may also analyze an alternative that considers the removal of the historic and defunct tram building within the NOMA, pending consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and any identified consulting parties. Under this alternative, only the dilapidated building at the bottom of the historic tramway would be removed, but structurally sound metal towers would be left in situ.