

# **Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Federal Land Management Agencies Consultation Process (Final – December 13, 2016)**

## ***Introduction***

The Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) is the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Shasta County region. As the MPO, SRTA is responsible for federal transportation planning and programming for the region.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) defines consultation as when: “one or more parties confer with other identified parties in accordance with an established process and, prior to taking action(s), considers the views of the other parties and periodically informs them about action(s) taken.”<sup>1</sup>

## ***Requirement to Consult with Federal Land Management Agencies***

U.S. DOT Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations Part 450.316(d) requires that when the Metropolitan Planning Area includes Federal public lands, the MPO shall appropriately involve the Federal land management agencies in the development of the metropolitan transportation plan and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Shasta Metropolitan Planning Area includes Federal public lands.

## ***Consultation***

This consultation process will serve as the documented process that outlines roles, responsibilities, and key decision points for consultation.

Consultation is a process, not a single event, and communication should continue until the project or plan is complete. Absence of timely, reciprocal communication will be regarded as assent.

The types of projects for which this consultation process applies includes:

- transportation studies;
- the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP-referred to in Federal statute as the metropolitan transportation plan); and

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, 23 CFR 450.104 – Definitions.



- Transportation Improvement Programs (Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Improvement Program).

Typically, these projects are not “projects” in relation to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). They are planning studies, generally exempt from CEQA and NEPA consideration, with the exception of the RTP, for which a program environmental impact report is prepared, pursuant to CEQA.

A. Roles

Agency	Function
MPO (SRTA)	SRTA is the federally-designated MPO and the state-designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency. It is responsible for federal and state transportation planning and programming for the Shasta region.
FLMAs (Bureau of Land Management, Lassen Volcanic National Park, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish & Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, Whiskeytown National Recreation Area)	The FLMAs are agencies responsible for federal lands and /or resources within the Shasta region.

B. Responsibilities

Agency	Responsibility(ies)
MPO (SRTA)	SRTA’s executive director is the designated MPO official with principal responsibility for the agency’s implementation of consultation requirements. At the appropriate time in the planning phase, contact shall be initiated by the executive director, or his / her designee, to begin the mutually agreed-upon actions established by this consultation process.
FLMAs	The Federal land management agencies, upon receiving notice from SRTA, will be responsible for bringing applicable information to bear, or, in the absence of the consultation initiation requiring action, will be responsible to notify SRTA of such.



C. Key Decision Points

Decision Points	Action(s)
Project Initiation	SRTA will initiate the consultation process by email or letter from SRTA’s executive director, or designee, upon applicable project initiation. In the notification, SRTA will offer to meet to discuss FLMA’s needs and / or concerns regarding potential impacts of project on areas within their purview. If FLMA elects to meet, SRTA to arrange meeting (in-person preferred, although teleconference acceptable if agreeable to FLMA).
Project Timeline or Scope of Work Alteration	SRTA will notify FLMAs of revisions in project timeline or scope of work.
Public / Interagency Review Periods	SRTA will notify FLMAs of the commencement of public / interagency review of applicable projects.
Public Hearings	SRTA will notify FLMAs of any scheduled public hearings for applicable projects.



## Appendix A – Local Contacts

Agency	Contact	Title	Telephone Number	Email Address
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	William Kuntz  or Jennifer Mata	Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner  or Field Manager	530-224-2100	<a href="mailto:wkuntz@blm.gov">wkuntz@blm.gov</a> or <a href="mailto:jamata@blm.gov">jamata@blm.gov</a>
Lassen Volcanic National Park	Gary Mott	Facility Manager	530-595-6220	<a href="mailto:gary_mott@nps.gov">gary_mott@nps.gov</a>
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA)	Daniel S. Little	Executive Director	530-262-6190	<a href="mailto:dlittle@sрта.ca.gov">dlittle@sрта.ca.gov</a>
US Army Corps of Engineers	Matt Kelley	Project Manager	530-223-9534	<a href="mailto:Matthew.P.Kelley@usace.army.mil">Matthew.P.Kelley@usace.army.mil</a>
US Fish & Wildlife Service (US FWS)	Kellie Berry	Chief, Sacramento Valley Division	916-414-6631	<a href="mailto:Kellie_berry@fws.gov">Kellie_berry@fws.gov</a>
US Forest Service (USFS)	Virginia Jones	Forest Engineer	530-225-2524	<a href="mailto:viriniadiones@fs.fed.us">viriniadiones@fs.fed.us</a>
Whiskeytown National Recreation Area	Chris Mengel	Chief Ranger	530-242-3413	<a href="mailto:chris_mengel@nps.gov">chris_mengel@nps.gov</a>



## Appendix B – FLMA General Resource Information<sup>2</sup>

### Bureau of Land Management



The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for carrying out a variety of programs for the management and conservation of resources on about 13 percent of the total land surface of the United States (more than 40 percent of all land managed by the Federal government).

[Visit the Bureau of Land Management Website](#)

### National Park Service



The National Park Service cares for a large network of natural, cultural, and recreational sites across the United States. The treasures in this system, which is the first of its kind in the world, have been set aside by the American people so that they can be preserved, protected, and shared. People from all around the world visit American national parks to experience America's story, marvel at the natural wonders, and have fun.

[Visit the National Park Service Website](#)

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<sup>2</sup> US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Federal Lands Highway, <https://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/about/partners/>, November 3, 2016.



## US Army Corps of Engineers



The United States Army Corps of Engineers is the world's largest public engineering, design, and construction management agency. Their diverse workforce of biologists, engineers, geologists, hydrologists, natural resource managers, and other professionals meets the demands of changing times and requirements as a vital part of America's army.

[Visit the US Army Corps of Engineers Website](#)

## US Fish & Wildlife Service



The US Fish & Wildlife Service works with a variety of partners to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Although a relative newcomer to the Department of the Interior, the Fish & Wildlife Service's programs are among the oldest in the world dedicated to the conservation of natural resources.

[Visit the US Fish & Wildlife Service Website](#)

## US Forest Service



Established in 1905, the Forest Service is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Forest Service manages public lands in national forests and grasslands across about 193 million acres of land, which is an area equivalent to the size of Texas.

[Visit the US Forest Service Website](#)

