

**Wayland, Joshua**

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**From:** Brian Barton <Brian@jonesanddemille.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2019 9:20 AM  
**To:** Wayland, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Uinta Basin Rail environmental work

Hi Josh. Yes, we will distribute and we look forward to discussing it this afternoon.

Thanks!

Brian Barton, PE  
Principal  
Jones & DeMille Engineering, Inc.  
435.979.7650

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**From:** Wayland, Joshua <Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2019 6:33 AM  
**To:** Brian Barton <Brian@jonesanddemille.com>  
**Subject:** Uinta Basin Rail environmental work

Brian,

I have attached a table summarizing our thoughts on the division of work for the Uinta Basin Rail project. Could you please circulate to the Coalition team members who will be participating on our call this afternoon? I am hoping that this document may provide a useful point of discussion for the call.

Best regards,  
Josh

Joshua Wayland, PhD  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Office of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
202.245.0330

## Uinta Basin Railroad EIS – Preliminary Environmental Fieldwork and Desktop Analysis Plan

The table below summarizes the preliminary plan for conducting environmental fieldwork and desktop analysis related to the Uinta Basin Railroad project. This preliminary plan is subject to change based on consultation with federal, state, and local agencies; tribes; the public; and other stakeholders during upcoming Scoping process.

| Resource Name                                     | Field Work Component                                                                                                                                                  | Desktop Component                                                                                       | Timing Considerations                                                                                               | ICF Roles                                                                                                                                                | HDR Roles                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>High-priority areas</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                       |
| <b>Wetlands</b>                                   | Field work will be determined in consultation with the Army Corps of Engineers. It will likely include field reconnaissance or delineations.                          | Preliminary mapping of wetlands will be based on NWI, USGS hydrography, aerial imagery, and State data. | Consultation with the Army Corps of Engineers should occur as soon as possible.                                     | ICF will support OEA consultation with the Army Corps of Engineers.<br><br>ICF will verify desktop component and observe field surveys and delineations. | HDR will conduct desktop component and field work.    |
| <b>Wildlife, Fish, and Special Status Species</b> | Field work will be determined in consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and appropriate State agencies. It could include aerial surveys and ground surveys. | Desktop analysis will include review of existing literature and previous studies of the project area.   | Consultation with agencies on species to be surveyed, timing, and survey protocol should occur as soon as possible. | ICF will support OEA consultation with appropriate agencies.<br><br>ICF will verify desktop component and observe field surveys.                         | HDR will conduct desktop component and field surveys. |
| <b>Cultural Resources</b>                         | Determined in consultation with the SHPO and the tribes. Likely to include pedestrian surveys of APE where access is provided.                                        | Desktop analysis will include records searches and other data collection.                               | Consultation with the SHPO and the tribes should occur as soon as possible to inform fieldwork component.           | ICF will support OEA consultation with the SHPO, tribes, and other appropriate parties.<br><br>ICF will desktop analyses and observe field surveys.      | HDR will conduct desktop analysis and field surveys.  |

| Resource Name                     | Field Work Component                                                                              | Desktop Component                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Timing Considerations                                                                                                                                                                  | ICF Roles                                                                                                                                                                                      | HDR Roles                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Section 4(f) and 6(f)</b>      | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                               | Desktop analysis will include data collection and mapping analysis to determine the presence of properties eligible for Section 4(f) protection and the presence of parks and recreation areas that have received funding through the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.                                                           | The possibility of DOT involvement should be considered early. If DOT review and approval will be required, Section 4(f) analysis should be included in initial alternatives analysis. | ICF will collect information on parks and recreation areas, historic sites and wildlife areas.<br><br>ICF will support OEA coordination with officials with jurisdiction over 4(f) properties. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Land Use</b>                   | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                               | Desktop analysis will involve reviewing existing land ownership maps, aerial photos, zoning ordinances, and land management plans.<br><br>New maps will be created using existing GIS data.<br><br>Consultation with appropriate land management agencies will be required to determine level of involvement in environmental review. | Consultation with Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management should begin as soon as possible to determine their level of involvement in the environmental review.                   | ICF will conduct desktop analysis and support OEA consultation with appropriate agencies.                                                                                                      | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Other Areas</b>                |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Visual Resources</b>           | Fieldwork will involve taking photographs of project area from identified key observation points. | Desktop analysis will include developing visual landscape models.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Fieldwork would ideally occur in spring or summer to ensure clear visibility.                                                                                                          | ICF will conduct desktop component and field work for this resource area.                                                                                                                      | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests.                             |
| <b>Rail Operations and Safety</b> | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                               | Desktop analysis will involve rail traffic modelling based on existing FRA accident data and operations plans provided by the railroad applicant.                                                                                                                                                                                     | Analysis related to this resource area should occur after the proposed action and alternatives are finalized.                                                                          | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area.                                                                                                                            | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |

| Resource Name                | Field Work Component                                | Desktop Component                                                                                                                                                                                      | Timing Considerations                                                                                         | ICF Roles                                                           | HDR Roles                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Grade-Crossing Delay</b>  | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area. | Desktop analysis will involve rail traffic modelling based on existing traffic data, forecasted vehicle traffic increases, and operations plans provided by the railroad applicant.                    | Analysis related to this resource area should occur after the proposed action and alternatives are finalized. | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Grade-Crossing Safety</b> | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area. | Desktop analysis will involve rail traffic modelling based on existing traffic data, forecasted vehicle traffic increases, and operations plans provided by the railroad applicant.                    | Analysis related to this resource area should occur after the proposed action and alternatives are finalized. | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Navigation</b>            | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area. | Desktop analysis will involve review of existing information to identify navigable waterways.                                                                                                          | Analysis related to this resource area should occur after the proposed action and alternatives are finalized. | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Air Quality</b>           | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area. | Computer air quality modelling (AERMOD, MOVES, etc.) will be based on data on construction equipment, timing of planned construction activities, and other details provided by the railroad applicant. |                                                                                                               | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Greenhouse Gases</b>      | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area. | Scope of desktop analysis will be determined in consultation with appropriate agencies.                                                                                                                |                                                                                                               | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Climate Change</b>        | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area. | Scope of desktop analysis will be determined in consultation with appropriate agencies.                                                                                                                |                                                                                                               | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |

| Resource Name              | Field Work Component                                                                 | Desktop Component                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Timing Considerations | ICF Roles                                                                                          | HDR Roles                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Noise and Vibration</b> | Fieldwork will include measuring ambient noise levels near selected noise receptors. | Desktop analysis will involve noise modelling based on digital terrain data (USGS topographic data or LIDAR data provided by railroad applicant).                                                                          |                       | ICF will conduct field surveys for ambient noise.<br><br>ICF will conduct desktop noise modelling. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Surface Water</b>       | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will involve modelling and mapping based on existing topographic data, aerial photos, soil maps, water quality data from EPA and state agencies, and design details to be provided by railroad applicant. |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area.                                | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Groundwater</b>         | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will involve compiling and reviewing existing groundwater and well data, including groundwater rights information.                                                                                        |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area.                                | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Floodplains</b>         | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will involve compiling and reviewing existing FEMA floodplain maps and NRCS soil maps.                                                                                                                    |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area.                                | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Recreation</b>          | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will involve reviewing existing recreation plans and applicable land use maps.                                                                                                                            |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area.                                | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |

| Resource Name                    | Field Work Component                                                                 | Desktop Component                                                                                                                         | Timing Considerations | ICF Roles                                                           | HDR Roles                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Hazardous Waste Sites</b>     | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will involve conducting records searches of appropriate environmental databases.                                         |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Geology and Soils</b>         | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will involve review of existing GIS data and soil maps from NRCS and digital elevation data.                             |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Paleontological Resources</b> | The need for fieldwork will be determined in consultation with appropriate agencies. | Desktop analysis will involve compiling and reviewing existing data and literature.                                                       |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will conduct field work component, if necessary.                                                                 |
| <b>Energy Resources</b>          | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will involve compiling and reviewing existing state and federal data and information provided by the railroad applicant. |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Socioeconomics</b>            | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will include reviewing existing state and federal data and reports.                                                      |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |
| <b>Environmental Justice</b>     | No fieldwork is anticipated for this resource area.                                  | Desktop analysis will involve reviewing existing Census Bureau data.                                                                      |                       | ICF will complete required desktop analysis for this resource area. | HDR will provide any previously collected data and will respond to information requests to support desktop analysis. |