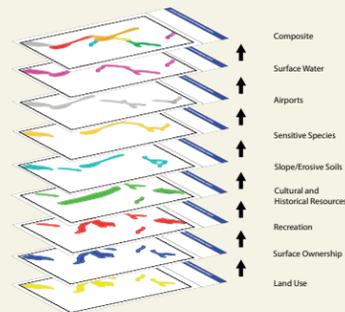


# ENVIRONMENT

## Environmental Resource Mapping

As part of the siting process for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project, Western Area Power Administration is evaluating environmental resources in the analysis area to identify opportunities and constraints for locating the proposed transmission lines.



Typical resource data include:

- Agricultural lands
- Airports
- Mineral development (oil and gas, gravel)
- Communication towers
- Land ownership
- Residential areas and municipal boundaries
- Recreational areas
- Scenic areas or routes
- Transportation corridors
- Existing utility corridors (transmission lines)
- Soils
- Water resources (including wetlands and floodplains)
- Cultural resources
- Vegetation
- Wildlife habitats

## Identification of Environmental Issues

Western will evaluate the potential effects to the resources identified in the EIS. Where a resource is affected, the EIS will include methods to avoid, minimize, or mitigate these effects.

Western has identified the following resources and potential issues for evaluation in the EIS. Others may be added to this list based on comments received during scoping.

### • Land use, recreation and transportation

Issues or effects may include:

- Compatibility with current land use
- Limitations on some activities near facilities



### • Agricultural operations

Issues or effects may include:

- Reduced amount of land available for agriculture
- Changes to the types of agricultural activities in the right of way

### • Human health and safety

Issues or effects may include:

- Electric and magnetic fields
- Aviation safety, especially during crop spraying
- Potential for contact with energized lines



### • Soils

Issues or effects may include:

- Soil compaction
- Increased potential for wind or water erosion

### • Floodplains and wetlands

Issues or effects may include:

- Potential alterations

### • Water resources

Issues or effects may include:

- Discharge of sediment to streams



### • Protected, threatened, endangered or sensitive species of animals or plants; or their critical habitats

Issues or effects may include:

- Disturbed or displaced species
- Habitat alteration

### • Other biological resources (including general wildlife, vegetation, and noxious weeds)

Issues or effects may include:

- Habitat alteration
- Changes to vegetation composition
- Spread of noxious weeds



### • Air

Issues or effects may include:

- Vehicle emissions during construction
- Fugitive dust during construction

### • Visual resources

Issues or effects may include:

- Alteration to visual landscape, especially in flat, open terrain

### • Cultural or historic resources and Tribal values

Issues or effects may include:

- Effects to pre-historic or historic cultural resources
- Discovery of new sites
- Compromise of Tribal values



### • Socioeconomic resources

Issues or effects may include:

- Economic benefits (spending) during construction
- Changes in tax revenue
- Disproportionate effects to minority and low-income groups

## Help us define the issues

This list of issues is not all inclusive.

We invite you to suggest specific issues and concerns within these general categories or to suggest other issues that should be evaluated in the EIS.

We need your comments by September 30.

Submit your comments:

- At this meeting
- Mail, fax, or email to  
Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager  
Western Area Power Administration  
Rocky Mountain Region  
P.O. Box 3700  
Loveland, CO 80539  
  
Fax: 970-461-7213  
  
Email: [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov)
- Complete the comment form on the Web at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp>