



# Survey and Reporting Requirements

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BLM

Version: 2014

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# survey dates

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Peak Flowering

Species	Usual Start	Usual End	Survey valid until
clay reed-mustard	May 1	June 5	Start of next flowering season
shrubby reed-mustard	April 15	August 1	
<b>Pariette cactus</b>	March 15	June 30	
<b>Uinta Basin hookless cactus</b>	Any time of year, provided there is no snow cover		Four years from survey date **Spot Checks
<b>Ute ladies'-tresses</b>	August 1	August 31	Start of next flowering season
<b>Graham's penstemon</b>	April 15	May 20	

# USFWS/BLM habitat polygons

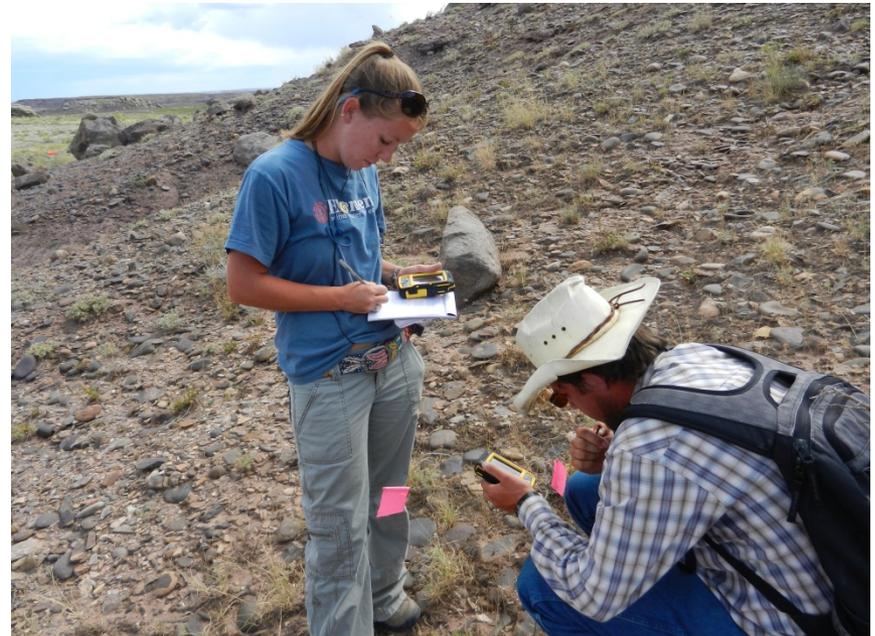
Polygons for:

- *Sclerocactus ssp.* (combined *S. wetlandicus* and *S. brevispinus*)
- *Schoenocrambe argillacea*
- *Schoenocrambe suffrutescens*
- *Polygons are meant to assist in delineation of broad-scale potential habitat . These are always at the discretion of botanists, both USFWS, BLM and proponent qualified. Habitat does exist and will be found outside of polygon areas, and should be evaluated and surveyed in the same manner.*

# Suitable habitat surveys

Site inventories conducted within suitable habitat to determine occupancy:

- By qualified individuals\* \*see USFWS website  
In all suitable habitat, usually during peak flowering
- Within 300 feet of disturbance (pipeline distances -see Table A) Valid for 1 year for listed species, 4 years for *Sclerocactus* ssp. with annual spot checks.
- *Sclerocactus* annual spot checks (MOU available, signed 5/2012) Results must be approved by BLM prior to new disturbance.



# Habitat definitions:

1. **Potential:** areas which satisfy the broad criteria of the species habitat description
2. **Suitable:** areas which contain or exhibit the specific components or constituents necessary for plant persistence; determined by field inspection and/or surveys; may or may not contain listed species; habitat descriptions can be found in Federal Register Notices and species recovery plan links at <http://www.fws.gov/>
  - Includes marginal and ideal habitat
3. **Occupied:** areas currently or historically known to support that species; synonymous with known habitat



Pre-project habitat assessments will be completed across 100% of the project and survey buffers to determine if suitable habitat is present. Survey buffers are 300'

(with the following pipeline exceptions)

# Pipeline Survey Distance information

## *Roadside pipelines*

For this type of disturbance, **the buffer distance between the edge of the ROW and listed plants will be 50 feet. Surveys will be conducted within the ROW and 50 feet from the edge of the ROW on one side of the road only**, the side on which the pipeline will be laid. If there is space between the pipeline ROW and the edge of the road disturbance, this area should be surveyed as well.

## *Cross-country pipelines*

Pipelines over ten feet away from roads are considered cross-country. These pipelines can be further divided into two categories:

- Some cross-country pipelines can be laid by hand and require no vehicle use at any time (including for installation and maintenance). Although these types of pipelines may cross new areas of land that were previously undisturbed, indirect effects should be minimal. For these types of pipelines, **the buffer distance between the edge of the ROW and listed plants will be 50 feet. Surveys will be conducted within the ROW and 50 feet from both sides of the ROW edge.**
- Other cross-country pipelines may require the use of vehicles for installation or maintenance. Vehicles include any type of mechanized travel—for example, ATVs or trucks. Vehicle use creates additional disturbance above and beyond foot traffic. If there is any potential that a vehicle will be used at any point within the pipeline ROW, **the buffer distance between the edge of the right of way and listed plants will be 300 feet. Surveys will be conducted within the right-of-way and 300 feet from both sides of the ROW edge.**

# Distances: 300 feet\*

## \*pipeline exceptions

Pipeline type	Where Is It?	Survey distance	Additional requirements or explanation	Required payment into mitigation fund?
Surface	Next to road	ROW plus 50 feet from edge of ROW on pipeline side of road only	Additional impacts from a pipeline placed next to a road will be discountable and insignificant compared to road impacts, therefore reduced survey distances are appropriate.	Yes, if cacti or occupied habitat are in ROW (but these should be avoided, if possible). Otherwise, no payment necessary
	a. Vehicle-free temporary ROW	ROW plus 50 feet from edge of ROW on both sides	Some surface lines may be laid by hand with minimal disturbance and no vehicles in the ROW—such pipelines can have a shorter survey distance.	Yes, if cacti or occupied habitat are in ROW (but these should be avoided, if possible). Otherwise, no payment necessary
	a. All other cross-country ROWs	ROW plus 300 feet from edge of ROW on both sides	Pipelines where any mechanized travel will be used for maintenance, installation, or other related activities need to maintain a 300-foot buffer.	Yes
Buried	Next to road	ROW plus 300 feet from edge of ROW on pipeline side of road only	The primary impacts with this type of disturbance are direct impacts to cacti—indirect effects are discountable and insignificant compared to road impacts. Thus, surveys are needed only on the side of the road where the pipeline will be buried.	Yes
	Cross-country	300 feet from edge of ROW	These pipelines create the most disturbance compared to other types of pipelines. Therefore, we require the maximum survey distance and buffer.	Yes

## Reporting

# The Basics

- On the cover page or similar intro info
  - The company the survey was contracted by and contact information
  - The project name
  - The legals for the project
  - TES species discussed in the report
  - The survey date
  - The lead surveyor/crew leaders that conducted the survey
  - Surveyor contact information
  - Include plant species lists, habitats, quality photos, and distance tables
  - Maps

# Introduction

- Provide a general description
  - Underlying geology
  - Soils in the project area
  - Dominate vegetation communities in the project vicinity

# Introduction or Methodology

- Provide a discussion on which TES plant species are found to have potential habitat in the project area
- Provide a discussion on the data/expert information used to come to the conclusion

# Methodology

- A detailed write up of the methodology is required:
  - Provide the manufacturer and accuracy of the GPS equipment used
  - If a habitat assessment is performed:
    - A description of the methodology used to perform the assessment
    - The criteria used to deem a portion of the project area as non-suitable habitat
  - In areas of intensive surveys:
    - Provide the spacing used between surveyors

# Results

- For cactus surveys within the potential habitat polygon
  - State clearly that the proposed project is located within the potential habitat polygon
- For all other T&E plant surveys
  - Provide the acreage of suitable habitat identified
  - Provide the acreage of occupied habitat identified
- For all T&E surveys
  - Provide the total acreage of survey/habitat assessment

# Result continued

- Provide a list of dominate plant species found at the project site.
- Identify if the species in question was identified and if so how far from the disturbance area.
- Identify if any Green River Shale habitats are found in the project area.
- **Do Not Make An Effect Determination**
- **Provide Tables\***

# Tables\*

**Table 9. Results of Uinta Basin Hookless Cactus Surveys**

Location	Survey Acreage (acres)	<i>S. wetlandicus</i> within 300 feet of Proposed Well Pad or Access Road?	<i>S. wetlandicus</i> within 300 feet of Proposed Pipeline?	Proposed Development within Level 2 Cactus Core Conservation Area? <sup>1</sup>
SRW 823-03O	32	No	No	No
SRW 823-10B	37	No	No	No
SRW 823-10G	41	No	No	No
SRW 823-03O, 10B, and 10G ACTS Pipelines	46	No	No	No
SRW 823-13B	163	No	Yes. Closest cactus is 175 feet	No
SRW 823-13E	141	No	Yes. Closest cactus is 175 feet	No
SRW 823-23H	153	No	Yes. Closest cactus is 175 feet	No
SRW 823-13B, 13E, and 23H ACTS Pipelines	71	-	No	No
SRW 823-15O	71	Yes. Closest cactus is 315 feet from road centerline (400 feet from pad edge).	Yes. Closest cactus is 295 feet	Yes. Access road and pipeline are within Level 2 core conservation area.
SRW 823-21J	158	Yes. Closest cacti are 130 feet from well pad edge and 155 feet from road centerline.	Yes. Closest cactus is 130 feet	Yes. Access road and pipeline are within Level 2 core conservation area.
SRW 823-22G	65	Yes. Closest cactus is 30 feet from well pad.	Yes. Closest cactus is 185 feet	Yes. Pipeline is within Level 2 core conservation area.
SRW 823-22K	91	No	Yes. Closest cactus is 185 feet	No
SRW 823-15O, 21J, 22G, and 22K ACTS Pipelines	142	-	Yes. Closest cactus is 140 feet	Yes. Pipeline is within Level 2 core conservation area.

Source: ██████████ 2013

# MAP

- A map of the survey area is required for each species discussed in the report, each requiring
  - Base layer of aerial imagery or topographic map
  - If survey crosses multiple jurisdictions, landownership
  - The project
  - The total survey area
  - The identified suitable habitat (if applicable)
  - The location of identified individual points or polygons

# UNHP Requirements

- For all species except for *Sclerocactus*, we are requiring the surveyor to complete the NEW plant field form and submit the findings to UNHP directly
- A copy of these forms will be included with the report provided to the BLM

# Submittal Requirement

- Submit a digital copy of reports as completed to the BLM Botanist

# Three-year monitoring



Occupied habitats within 300 feet of disturbance shall be monitored for 3 years after ground disturbing activities.

- Annual surveys
- Reports to BLM and the Service

Conservation measures will be evaluated by BLM and the Service

# websites

Species information:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>

RMP:

[http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/vernal/planning/rmp/rod\\_approved\\_rmp.2.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/vernal/planning/rmp/rod_approved_rmp.2.html)

Vernal Field Office Nepa

- <http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/vernal/planning.html>

*Grayia* ssp. 3/12/14

- early soil warming
- winter-long snow pack
- recent precipitation

