

chapter 6



CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Chapter 6. Consultation and Coordination

The public involvement process was an important component of the CCP/EIS project. During the scoping phase of the project, the Service sought input from the public and interested organizations and agencies to help direct the CCP/EIS process. Scoping helped identify specific opportunities, issues, concerns and ideas related to the management of the future Refuge.

The Service used various methods to solicit guidance and feedback from interested citizens, organizations, and government agencies. These methods included public scoping meetings, public agency scoping meetings, briefings and presentations, issue-specific focus group workshops, as well as letters, email and telephone calls.

6.1. PROJECT SCOPING

The scoping process began with informal public agency consultations in February 2002. On July 23, 2002, Service staff met with the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments (RFCLOG). The RFCLOG is a coalition of seven local governments (Boulder County, Jefferson County, City and County of Broomfield, and the cities of Arvada, Boulder, Westminster, and Superior).

Beginning in early 2002, Service staff met with representatives from communities, agencies, and businesses that may have an interest in the Rocky Flats CCP/EIS process. The Service also met with state representatives, including the offices of the Governor, the Attorney General and the CDPHE to help develop the public process. The purpose of these meetings was to brief the stakeholders on the planning process, and solicit their comments and concerns for the scoping process.

Between February 6 and April 12, 2002, Dean Rundle and Laurie Shannon with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service met individually with each member of the RFCLOG. All the local governments had questions about developing the Memorandum of Understanding between DOE and the Service in addition to the planning process. Copies of the Service's policy on Planning and Compatibility were distributed. Service staff also met with representatives of the cities of Golden, Thornton, Northglenn, Louisville and Lafayette.

The formal scoping period for the general public began on August 23, 2002, with the publication of a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register. The Notice of Intent notified the public of the Service's intent to begin the CCP/EIS process, set the dates for public scoping meetings, and solicited public comments. The scoping period ended on October 31, 2002.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

Public scoping meetings were held in September 2002 in Broomfield, Arvada, Westminster, and Boulder. Several weeks before the public scoping meetings, Planning Update #1, an announcement of the scoping meetings, was mailed to 889 individuals, businesses and organizations. The mailing list consisted of individuals and organizations that had previously expressed an interest in Rocky Flats-related issues and were on the Rocky Flats Citizen Advisory Board (RFCAB), the DOE, or Kaiser-Hill (DOE contractor) mailing lists.

Planning Update #1 described the planning process, the draft vision and goals for the Refuge, and the dates, times and locations of the public scoping meetings. Information contained in Planning Update #1 also was announced at RFCLOG and RFCAB meetings. A press release soliciting participation in the scoping process was also sent to 23 local and national media organizations. The Service placed advertisements in seven newspapers to publicize the project and invite the public to the scoping meetings. Flyers announcing the public scoping meetings were posted in public buildings in several communities surrounding the Rocky Flats site.

PROJECT WEBSITE

The Rocky Flats NWR web site (<http://rockyflats.fws.gov/>) was published for public access during the week of July 21, 2002, and contained information about the public scoping meetings, as well as downloadable versions of all of the available public scoping documents.

PUBLIC AGENCY MEETING

On August 19, 2002, the Service hosted a meeting for representatives from various state and federal agencies

interested in the future management of the Rocky Flats site. The following agencies were represented:

- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
- City of Westminster
- Colorado Attorney General's Office
- Colorado Department of Agriculture
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Colorado Geological Survey
- Colorado Historical Society
- Colorado State Parks
- Denver Regional Council of Governments
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Governor Owens' Office
- Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments
- State Land Board
- Senator Allard's Office
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Urban Drainage and Flood Control District
- Xcel Energy

FOCUS GROUPS

Six focus group meetings were held on October 28, 29, and 30, 2002. The purpose of the focus group meetings was to convene a forum to better explore key issues, as well as the potential management alternatives and their potential implications. Participants were invited because of their knowledge of a particular subject. Focus groups were convened around the following topics: Recreation; Environmental Education; Public

Perception/Public Information: Managing a NWR in the Context of Remediation and Contamination; Trails; Vegetation Management; and Wildlife Management.

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

Representatives from the Arapaho Tribe, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, Northern Cheyenne Tribe, the Ute Indian Tribe Business Council, Southern Ute Tribe, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe were contacted by the Service to solicit their input for the scoping process. The Service received responses from the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma and will continue to work with them during the planning process. The Service did not receive any scoping comments from the Tribes.

6.2. RESULTS FROM SCOPING

During the course of the public scoping process, the planning team received 1,881 comments from the public or other stakeholders. Every comment was considered and grouped by topic area (Table 22). The objective of the scoping process is to gather the full range of comments, questions and concerns that the public has about the future Rocky Flats NWR.

Major topics included public use, cultural resources, real estate, infrastructure, vegetation management, and wildlife management. Other topics that have attracted comments include Refuge operations, cleanup level and remediation issues, and comments on the planning process.

Table 22. Percentage of Scoping Comments by Topic

| Topic Area | Percentage of Comments |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Public Use | 31 |
| Vegetation | 13 |
| Wildlife | 12 |
| Infrastructure | 11 |
| Contamination† | 10 |
| Property‡ | 8 |
| Cultural Resources | 6 |
| Refuge Operations | 6 |
| Planning Process | 3 |

† Issues related to contamination and site cleanup are outside the scope of this CCP/EIS, as explained in Section 1.8.

‡ Issues related to property include mineral rights, potential land acquisitions, and the transportation corridor right of way, all of which are discussed in Section 2.9.

Written submissions came in the form of letters, email, questionnaires, and notes from telephone calls. Questionnaires were distributed at the public scoping meetings and could also be downloaded from the project website. Sixty-two written submissions were received. All written submissions were carefully read and evaluated to determine the specific issues or concerns that were being addressed.

6.3. ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOPS

After the significant issues were identified during the scoping period, the Service developed alternatives for the management of the Refuge. In May 2003, the Service held workshops in Broomfield, Arvada, Westminster, and Boulder to present four preliminary management alternatives. The alternatives ranged from providing little or no public access to extensive public access and facility development. At each workshop, the participants were encouraged to provide comments on the alternatives, and were specifically asked what they liked or disliked about them.

ISSUES TO RECONSIDER

The public expressed differing opinions on several issues. The following were the predominant concerns:

Proposed Action: Re-examine Alternative B and determine if it should remain as is or be modified in some specific way.

Equestrian Use: Evaluate whether equestrian use is consistent with the goals of Alternative B, and if it is compatible with the Refuge purposes.

Trail Design: Consider modifying trail configurations in Alternatives B and D to improve connectivity and enhance visitor experience while minimizing potential impacts on sensitive natural resources.

Restoration: Consider phasing options that would accelerate habitat conservation and delay public use facility and programming development until restoration efforts are underway.

PUBLIC PREFERENCES

Comments on the alternatives were highly varied as to people's desires, with some wanting no public access to Rocky Flats and some wanting extensive public use. More people supported Alternative B, either as it is or with some modifications. A majority of the comments were related to public use opportunities (42 percent) and habitat and wildlife management (30 percent). These percentages reflect what was heard through the comment period, which ended in June 2003.

After the workshops were completed, the Service re-evaluated all the issues and revised some portions of the alternatives prior to the development of the CCP/EIS.

6.4. COMMENTS ON DRAFT EIS

The Draft CCP/EIS was available for public review from February 19, 2004 to April 25, 2004. In March 2004, the Service held four public hearings on the draft in Westminster, Boulder, Arvada, and Broomfield. In addition to the public hearing testimony, comments were also received in the form of letters, emails, form letters, and petitions. During the Draft CCP/EIS comment period, the Service received over 5,000 comments from 251 individuals, 34 agencies/organizations, and 933 form letters. From those who specifically stated a preference for a particular alternative, 21 percent supported Alternative A, 63 percent supported Alternative B, 15 percent for Alternative C, and 1 percent for Alternative D.

The most significant issue raised was about public access and whether there should be any public access due to past contamination history and the current level of cleanup on the site and how the DOE retained area would be demarcated. Other significant issues included public hunting, prescribed fire and grazing, prairie dog management, water rights, Lindsay Ranch, cumulative impacts of adjacent mining, and nearby transportation improvements. All substantive issues raised in the comments were addressed in the Final CCP/EIS.

All of the comments received on the Draft CCP/EIS, as well as responses to substantive comments, are included or summarized in Appendix H-*Comments and Responses on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement* (under a separate cover). Public comments will be available for review at the Front Range Community College Library, Rocky Flats Reading Room or at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center on weekends. Responses to comments are included as a companion document with the Final CCP/EIS.

CHANGES FROM THE DRAFT CCP/EIS

As a result of public comments and concerns about the Draft CCP/EIS, numerous changes were made to the Final CCP/EIS. The most significant changes include the following:

- **Trails:** New trail configurations for Alternatives B and D (See Figures 7, 9, 25, and 27)

- **Hunting Weaponry:** Muzzleloading rifles were eliminated from the list of weapons to be allowed for the hunting program.
- **Contamination:** Expanded discussion of contamination, cleanup, and the DOE retained lands (See Sections 1.8, 3.2, and 4.2, and Appendix E)
- **Transportation Improvements:** Revised discussion about the transportation corridor and nearby transportation improvements (See Sections 2.10 and 4.16)

6.5. DRAFT CCP/EIS RECIPIENTS

FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES

Name

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Glen Tucker | Agency Toxic Substance and Disease Register |
| Scott Fredericksen | Federal Aviation Administration |
| Steve Balzek | National Renewable Energy Laboratory |
| Tim Carey | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
| John Rampe | U.S. Department of Energy |
| Frazier Lockart | U.S. Department of Energy |
| Amy Bergstedt | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| Robert Roberts | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| John Brejcha | Colorado Board of Land Commissioners |
| Eric Lane | Colorado Department of Agriculture |
| Ron Cattany | Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology |
| Steve Gunderson | Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment |
| Howard Roitman | Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment |
| Steve Tarlton | Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment |
| Brad Beckham | Colorado Department of Transportation |
| Tim Harris | Colorado Department of Transportation |
| Eric O'Dell | Colorado Division of Wildlife |
| Mike Wedermyer | Colorado Division of Wildlife |
| Scott Hoover | Colorado Division of Wildlife |
| Ken Knox | Colorado Division of Water Resources |
| Charlie Unseld | Colorado Department of Local Affairs |
| Dan Corson | Colorado Office of Historic Preservation |
| Vicki Cowart | Colorado Office of Minerals and Geology |
| Greg Squire | Colorado Office of Minerals and Geology |
| Bob Finch | Colorado State Parks |
| Roxanne Brickell-Reardon | Colorado State Parks |
| Dan McAuliffe | Colorado Water Conservation Board |
| John Sovell | Colorado State University |
| Dr. George Beck | Colorado State University |
| Len Ackland | University of Colorado |
| Dr. Tim Seastadt | University of Colorado |
| Bill Broderick | Denver Regional Council of Governments |
| Scott Tucker | Urban Drainage and Flood Control District |
| Honorable Paul Danish | Boulder County |
| Jane Uitti | Boulder County |
| Rich Koopman | Boulder County Parks and Open Space |
| Scott Robson | Boulder County Transportation |
| Mike Bartleson | City and County of Broomfield |
| Shirley Garcia | City and County of Broomfield |
| Councilor Hank Stoval | City and County of Broomfield |
| Councilor Tom Bruner | City and County of Broomfield |
| Honorable Ken Fellman | City of Arvada |
| Gordon Reusink | City of Arvada |
| Councilor Lorraine Anderson | City of Arvada |
| Clark Johnson | City of Arvada |
| Andrea O'Neill | City of Arvada Park Advisory Committee |
| Shawn McGrath | City of Boulder |
| Mike Weil | City of Boulder |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jim Crain | City of Boulder Open Space |
| Matt Jones | City of Boulder Open Space |
| Kristin Pritz | City of Broomfield Open Space |
| Councilor Bob Nelson | City of Golden |
| Mike Bestor | City of Golden |
| Gary Klaphake | City of Lafayette |
| Bill Simmons | City of Louisville |
| Philip Nelson | City of Northglenn |
| Jack Ethredge | City of Thornton |
| Ron Hellbusch | City of Westminster |
| Albert Nelson | City of Westminster |
| Lynn Wodell | City of Westminster |
| Councilor Sam Dixon | City of Westminster |
| Honorable Michelle Lawrence | Jefferson County |
| Nannette Neelan | Jefferson County |
| Ken Foelske | Jefferson County Open Space |
| Frank Kunze | Jefferson County Open Space |
| Trustee Karen Imbierowicz | Town of Superior |
| Matt Magley | Town of Superior |

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Name

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Dan Miller | Office of Attorney General Ken Salazar |
| Felicity Hannay | Office of Attorney General Ken Salazar |
| Doug Young | Office of Congressman Mark Udall |
| Terry Van Keuren | Office of Congressman Tom Tancredo |
| John Swartout | Office of Governor Bill Owens |
| Brandy Belta | Office of Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell |
| Jeanette Alberg | Office of Senator Wayne Allard |
| Kim Cadena | Office of Congressman Bob Beauprez |

ORGANIZATIONS

Name

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Suzanne Webel | BATCO - Boulder Area Trails Coalition |
| Jim McKee | Boulder County Nature Assn.; Colorado Wildlife Federation |
| Jyoti Wind | Citizens Concerned About Nuclear Waste Impacts |
| Steve Davies | Cold War Museum |
| Michael Menefee | Colorado Natural Heritage Program |
| Suzanne O'Neil | Colorado Wildlife Federation |
| David Buckner | Esco Associates |
| Paula Elofson-Gardine | Environmental Information Network |
| David and Doris DePenning | Friends of the Foothills |
| Roman Kohler | Homesteaders |
| Gary Spring | International Mountain Biking Association |
| David Shelton | Kaiser-Hill |
| Bob Meulengracht | Mule Deer Foundation |
| Steve Torbit | National Wildlife Federation |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Paul Kilburn | North Jeffco Area Group |
| Jim Stone | Rocky Flats Cleanup Commission |
| David Abelson | Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments |
| Kimberly Chelboun | Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments |
| Tom Gallegos | Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board |
| Victor Holm | Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board |
| Jerry Henderson | Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board |
| William Cossack | Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board |
| Ken Korkia | Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board |
| Jim Kinsinger | Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board |
| Patricia Rice | Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board |
| Erin Hamby | Rocky Mountain Peace & Justice Center |
| Tom Marshall | Rocky Mountain Peace & Justice Center |
| LeRoy Moore | Rocky Mountain Peace & Justice Center |
| Hildegard Hix | Sierra Club |
| Joan Seeman | Sierra Club |
| Justin Spring | Trust for Public Land |
| Len Carpenter | Wildlife Management Institute |
| Steve Smith | Xcel Energy |

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

Name

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Anthony Addison, Chairman | Arapaho Business Committee |
| Virgil Franklin, Sr., NAGPRA Contact | Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma |
| James Pedro | Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma |
| Geri Small, President | Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council |
| Nelson Tallbull Sr., NAGPRA Contact | Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council |
| Leonard Burch, Chairman | Southern Ute Tribe |
| O. Roland McCook Sr., NAGPRA Contact | Ute Indian Tribe |
| Floyd Wopsock, Chairman | Ute Indian Tribe Business Committee |
| Judy Knight-Frank, Chairperson | Ute Mountain Ute Tribe |
| Terry Knight, NAGPRA | Ute Mountain Ute Tribe |

INDIVIDUALS

Name

Name

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bini Abbott | Ann Lockhart |
| Jacques and Carolyn Adam | Doug Magee |
| Donald and Pamela Anderson | Julie Maheu |
| Hildy Armour | Brenda Marriott |
| Amy Bowman | Michael Mauro |
| John Boylan | Charlie McKay |
| Judy Capra | Nancy McNally |
| Judy Childers | Caecilia McNeill |
| Kirk Cunningham | Dan and Barb Michaels |
| Alex Deya-Santiago | Chris Morrison |
| Becky Eades | Renee Nelson |
| Janice Echaradt | Werner and Nancy Newpert |
| Judy Enderle | Harvey Nichols |
| Anne Fenerty | Shelly Reed |

Linda Georges
John Giezertunner
Francesca Giongo
Deb Griew
Doug Grinbergs
Al Gunter
Erin Hamby
Jeanniene Haynes
Tom Hoffman
Karen Hollweg
Bob Kropfli

Joel Selbin
Barbara Taylor
Bryan Taylor
Janet Torma
Eric Vogelsberg
Henry Von Struve
D. Waddington
Lisa and Rick Woodward
Sharon Zuelsdor

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Name

Arvada Public Library
Boulder Public Library
Westminster Public Library
Golden Public Library
Daniels Public Library

Louisville Public Library
Thornton Public Library
Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library, Broomfield
Front Range Community College