

Environmental Considerations In Project Initiation



Daniel Ohrn

ODOT Region 2 Environmental Unit Manager

Daniel came to ODOT in 2009, starting his ODOT career in Region 1 and later making the move to Region 2 in 2015.

In his time at ODOT, Daniel has held several positions, including Erosion Control Specialist, Biologist, and Region Environmental Coordinator (REC). He currently manages the Region 2 Environmental Unit.



Project Initiation Takeaways

1. Early & Often Coordination with the REC
2. Be Aware of Environmental “Triggers”
3. What Information the REC Needs



Region Environmental Coordinator (REC)

- Primary ODOT contact for Environmental topics
- Coordinates the work of ODOT Environmental Specialists
- Prepares the Environmental Prospectus
- Coordinates Environmental Review of Statement of Work (SOW)
- Alerts Local Agency Liaison (LAL) and Local Agency (LA) Project Manager (PM) of any red flags
- Keeps the project on-track
- Make friends with the ODOT REC!



Critical Times to Communicate with the REC



- Project Initiation
 - Environmental Prospectus Preparation
 - Discuss scope, schedule, environmental “triggers”
- Project changes (even “minor”)
- Project delivery milestones



Environmental Prospectus

Purpose

- Identify a preliminary NEPA class of action
- Assist in determining whether a project can be processed as a PCE
- Determine whether the project exceeds one or more of the “consult clause” thresholds in the PCE Agreement
- Inform the environmental statement of work for a consultant
- Provide a “roadmap” for completion of the environmental work

Snapshot in time

- Lays out the knowns and unknowns

Environmental Prospectus – Overview (Part 1)

(HANDOUT 3)

[LINK TO GUIDANCE](#)

[SHOW SUMMARY](#)

PRELIM. NEPA CLASS



ODOT ENVIRONMENTAL PROSPECTUS

PROJECT NAME			REGION	KEY NUMBER	FEDERAL AID NUMBER	
CITY	COUNTY	FHWA NEXUS		PROJECT SPONSOR		
HIGHWAY NAME					BEGIN MP	END MP
LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION (FIELD WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE. CLICK TAB TO SEE TEXT IN EXPANDED FIELD.)						

Checklist questions marked with an asterisk (*) indicate that the question is related to the qualifying thresholds ("kickouts") identified in the 2015 PCE Agreement.

Estimated Right of Way Impacts

Right of Way

1. * Will the project involve temporary or permanent acquisition of right-of-way?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
2. * Will the project result in the temporary or permanent displacement of persons or businesses?.. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Railroads

3. Will the project involve work on or adjacent to railroad-owned property? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Environmental Prospectus – Overview (Part 2)

Estimated Traffic/Transportation Impacts

5. What are the current and future ADT volumes for the project?.....	CURRENT ADT	FUTURE ADT	☐ Unknown ☐ N/A
TRAFFIC/TRANSPORTATION COMMENTS (FIELD WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE. CLICK TAB TO SEE TEXT IN EXPANDED FIELD.)			

Estimated Land Use Impacts

6. Is the project outside of an Urban Growth Boundary?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Partially
7. If the project is outside the UGB, is it expected to require new right-of-way?.....	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
8. If the project is outside the UGB, is the project allowed, or conditionally allowed, by the rules for Transportation Planning on Rural Lands (OAR 660-012-0065)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
9. Region Planner's opinion that the project conforms with:	
a. Transportation Planning Rule	☐ Yes ☐ No
b. * Statewide Planning Goals	☐ Yes ☐ No
c. Comprehensive Plan and/or Transportation System Improvement Plan (city, county or both)	☐ Yes ☐ No
10. Is the project located within the Oregon Coastal Zone?	☐ Yes ☐ No
11. Will areas of Forest or Exclusive Farm Use (EFU), or Open Space Reserve zoning be impacted by the project?	☐ Yes ☐ No
12. Will the project result in the conversion of prime farmland, unique farmland, or land of statewide or local importance by the Farmland Protection Policy Act?	☐ Yes ☐ No
13. What are the general uses of land adjacent to the project area?	☐ Residential ☐ Commercial ☐ Farm/Forest ☐ Public ☐ Other (explain below)



Environmental Prospectus – Overview (Part 3)

Estimated Water Resources and Wetlands Impacts

Stormwater

20. Will the project trigger the need for stormwater treatment? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Waters of the U.S./State

21. Are there waters of the U.S. or State within the project area? (If no, skip to Question 30) ☐ Yes ☐ No

22.* Is the project within a FEMA 100-year flood plain? ☐ Yes ☐ No

23.* Is the project within a FEMA regulated floodway? ☐ Yes ☐ No

24. Will the project occur in or over publically owned submerged or submersible lands? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

25.* Will the project require a new USCG Bridge Permit? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

26. Will the project require modification to an existing USCG Bridge Permit or Temporary Rule Change? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

27. Will there be any fill or removal from waters of the U.S. or state? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

28. Will fill or removal take place in waters of the State listed by DSL as Essential Salmonid Habitat? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

29. Will fill or removal take place in waters of the State that are Aquatic Resources of Special Concern? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Water Supply Wells

30. Will any active wells be impacted by the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Wetlands

31. Are wetlands potentially present in the project area? ☐ Yes ☐ No

32. Do soil surveys indicate hydric soils in the project area? ☐ Yes ☐ No

33. Is wetland vegetation evident from visual inspection? ☐ Yes ☐ No

34. Will the project fill or remove material from wetlands? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Example (Part 1)

[LINK TO GUIDANCE](#)[SHOW SUMMARY](#)

ODOT ENVIRONMENTAL PROSPECTUS

PRELIM. NEPA CLASS
CE

PROJECT NAME		REGION	KEY NUMBER	FEDERAL AID NUMBER
Verda Lane: Dearborn Ave to Salem Pkwy (Keizer)		2	20741	3850(019)
CITY	COUNTY	FHWA NEXUS	PROJECT SPONSOR	
Keizer	Marion	PE & CON funding	LPA	
HIGHWAY NAME				BEGIN MP
NA				END MP
LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION
44.985264	-123.008101	Salem West 7S	3W	1 and 2

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (FIELD WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE. CLICK TAB TO SEE TEXT IN EXPANDED FIELD.)

ODOT is designing this bicycle and pedestrian project on Verda Lane on behalf of City of Keizer. The project of approximately 3,000 feet in length, will add sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of Verda Lane from Dearborn Ave. at the north to just north of Salem Parkway. These improvements will help serve as multi-modal facilities for both Claggett Creek Elementary and Whittaker Middle Schools. The project also proposes to realign approximately 225 feet of Claxter Rd. to tee up with Alder Drive at Verda Lane. In addition, a left turn pocket is proposed at Alder, increasing the road width at this location. All curb ramps will be upgraded or newly installed to meet current ADA standards. Any existing sidewalk sections will remain in place. Rain gardens are anticipated for treatment of stormwater. Permits unlikely as no ditches were observed. This project is a kick-out from the PCE due to likely displacement of one residence to realign Claxter Rd. with Alder Dr.

Example of
prospectus
providing
clarifying
“roadmap”
language

Example (Part 2)

Estimated Right of Way Impacts

Right of Way

- | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. * Will the project involve temporary or permanent acquisition of right-of-way?..... | ☒ Yes | ☐ No | ☐ Unknown |
| 2. * Will the project result in the temporary or permanent displacement of persons or businesses?.. | ☒ Yes | ☐ No | ☐ Unknown |

Railroads

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 3. Will the project involve work on or adjacent to railroad-owned property? | ☐ Yes | ☒ No | ☐ Unknown |
|---|------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|

Utilities

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 4. Will the project involve substantial impact to or relocation of existing reimbursable utilities that could create a disruption to service or additional environmental impacts??..... | ☐ Yes | ☐ No | ☒ Unknown |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|

RIGHT OF WAY IMPACTS COMMENTS (FIELD WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE. CLICK TAB TO SEE TEXT IN EXPANDED FIELD.)

Right-of-way will consist most commonly of linear strips of permanent roadway easement, along with temporary construction easement. The City wishes to realign Claxter Rd. from an offset with Alder, to a four-way intersection; this may affect one residence on the south side of Claxter Rd. by displacement.

Example (Part 3)

Estimated Water Resources and Wetlands Impacts

Stormwater

20. Will the project trigger the need for stormwater treatment? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Waters of the U.S./State

21. Are there waters of the U.S. or State within the project area? (If no, skip to Question 30) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Water Supply Wells

30. Will any active wells be impacted by the project? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

Wetlands

31. Are wetlands potentially present in the project area? ☐ Yes ☒ No

32. Do soil surveys indicate hydric soils in the project area? ☐ Yes ☒ No

33. Is wetland vegetation evident from visual inspection? ☐ Yes ☒ No

34. Will the project fill or remove material from wetlands? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

35. * Will the project require an Individual Permit, Nationwide Permit, General Authorization or General Permit? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

WATER RESOURCES AND WETLANDS IMPACTS COMMENTS (FIELD WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE. CLICK TAB TO SEE TEXT IN EXPANDED FIELD.)

The project area is urban residential in nature. There were no wetlands or waterways observed within the project area. Claggett Creek is west of the project area by about 500 feet, runs parallel to Verda Lane, but does not cross the project area. NWI GIS does not indicate any wetlands in or adjacent to the project area. Permits are unlikely as no ditches or wetlands were observed.

The project will trigger stormwater treatment by adding curb, gutter, and sidewalk where there is none currently.

Example (Part 4)

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES IMPACTS COMMENTS (FIELD WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE. CLICK TAB TO SEE TEXT IN EXPANDED FIELD.)

ORBIC GIS Indicates species last observed long ago. The list includes Willamette Valley Daisy (1924), Howellia (1935), Oregon Giant Earthworm (1950, Bradshaw's Lomatium (1916), Golden Paintbrush (1916), and Kincaid's Lupine (1916). Due to residential development, it is unlikely that any of these species or their habitat would be found in the project area. An ESA Determination of No Effect is anticipated for USFWS species.

Conversion of roadside infiltration to curb, gutter, and sidewalk, along with some roadway widening to provide a consist roadway with, is triggering stormwater treatment for the contributing impervious area. FAHP ESA informal consultation with the ODOT NMFS Liaison early in project development and FAHP documentation is required for this project.

A number of large trees will need to be cut in order to build new pedestrian facilities. Trees should be cut during the non-nesting season of approximately October 1 to March 1.

Environmental Prospectus - Roles



- Most often prepared by the ODOT REC, but qualified LPA staff meeting minimum qualifications may also prepare the prospectus
- An ODOT REC is always responsible for reviewing and approving the Environmental Prospectus
- Anticipate approximately two weeks for ODOT review and approval of an Environmental Prospectus prepared by LPA staff





Environmental Prospectus - Professional Qualifications

Must be prepared by an individual who demonstrates:

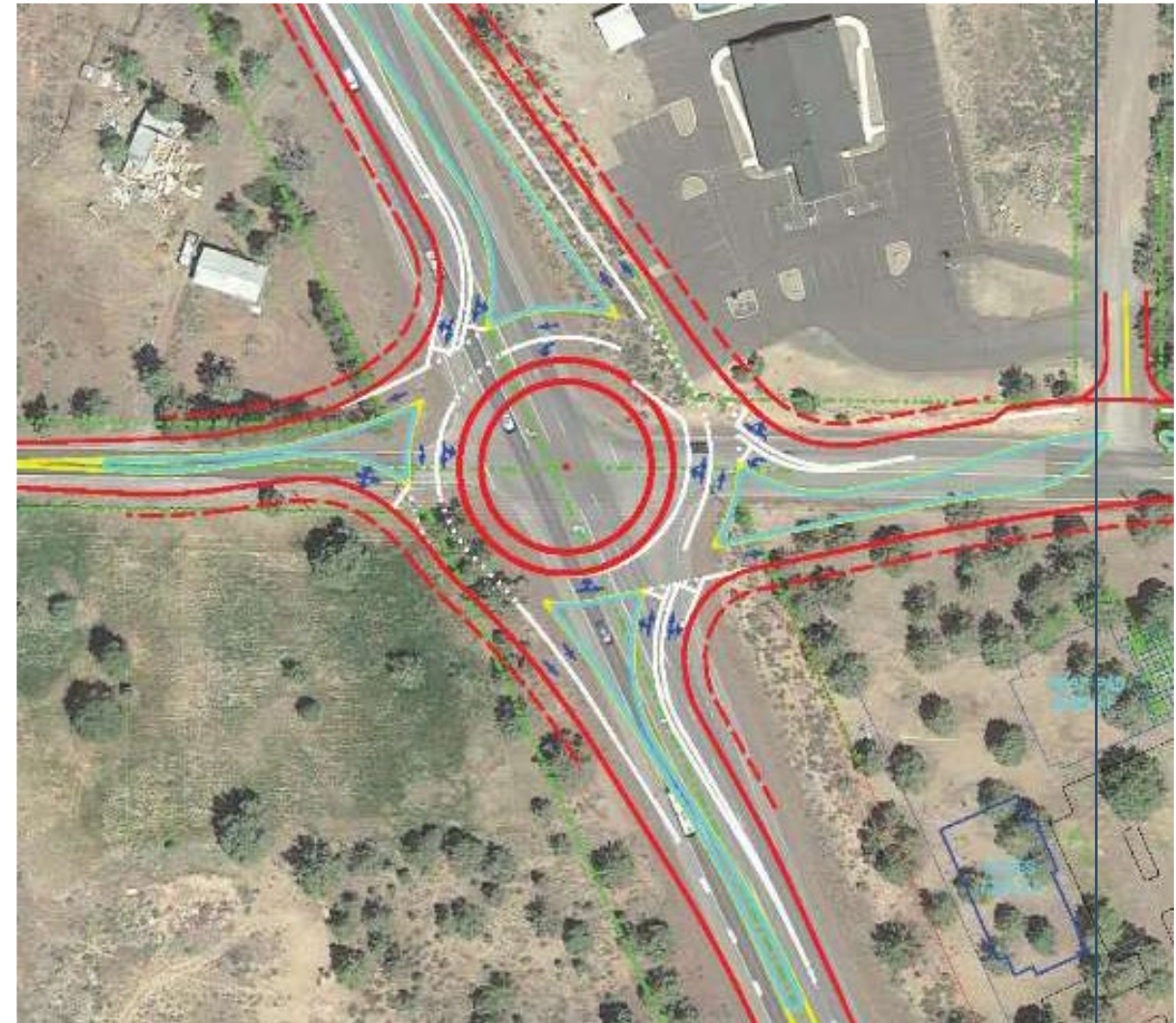
- Experience in addressing NEPA compliance for transportation projects
- Knowledge of FHWA and ODOT procedures for environmental analysis and NEPA compliance.

Environmental Prospectus - Timing

As soon as sufficient information is available to evaluate the project, and an Expenditure Account is open.

Information needed:

- Detailed project description
- DRAFT Area of Potential Impact map
- Technical Scope Sheet (TSS)
- STIP Scoping Notes



Footprint Considerations

- Stormwater Management
- Wetland / Waters Mitigation
- Riparian Plantings
- Bridge Clear-span Length (FAHP fluvial criteria)



Schedule Considerations



PE

- Programmatic kick-outs (e.g. FAHP, PCE)
- Historic & Archaeology Effects (Adverse effect = mitigation, MOA)
- Permits (DSL, Corps, US Coast Guard)
- Botanical Blooming periods



Construction

- MBTA & ESA Bird Timing Restrictions
- ODFW In-water Work Period
- Temporary impacts (parks)
- Archaeological monitoring

Risk Awareness



Key Environmental Issues and Requirements

KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND REQUIREMENTS COMMENTS (FIELD WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE. CLICK TAB TO SEE TEXT IN EXPANDED FIELD.)

- Preliminary environmental clearances before geotechnical investigation.
- Early coordination with the ODOT NMFS Liaison for the use of FAHP ESA.
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act compliance by timing of tree or shrub removal, and bird exclusion on the structure to be removed. Determine if USDA APHIS is needed.
- Early coordination with the ODOT Historian should occur regarding the status of the bridge if it is determined eligible for the National Register. The type of additional evaluation could affect the project classification and schedule.

Environmental Prospectus

Key Environmental Triggers

(EP Triggers)



EP Triggers – Stormwater (Part 1)



Stormwater Treatment Triggers

- Increase contributing impervious area
- Construct new pavement that increases capacity or widens the road prism
- Reconstruct pavement below asphalt surface
- Substantial bridge rehabilitation
- Replace a stream crossing
- Change stormwater conveyance





EP Triggers – Stormwater (Part 2)

Stormwater Detention Triggers

- Increase net impervious area by more than 0.25 acres; and
- Discharge treated stormwater runoff into a stream with an upstream drainage area less than 100 mi²



EP Triggers – Stormwater (Part 3)

Exemptions

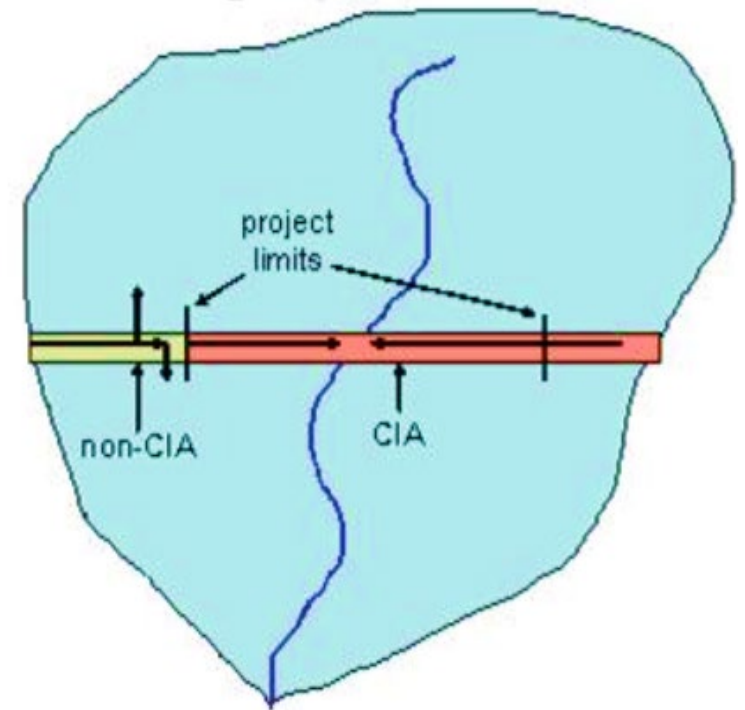
- Signals or signs, including ATM signs.
- Minor non-structural pavement repairs
- On-street parking modifications that reduce pollution generating impervious surface
- Emergency repair of slides and sinkholes
- Seismic retrofit not affecting bridge deck or drainage
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) facility retrofits



EP Triggers – Stormwater (Part 4)

Contributing impervious area – The area of impervious surface that drains to a certain point or area, and for which stormwater management is required. In common practice, a project's contributing impervious area (CIA) consists of impervious areas that are either owned by the project's proponent agency or are being constructed or reconstructed by the project, and is the sum of:

- (a) the impervious footprint of the action that constitutes a stormwater management trigger,
- (b) the contiguous impervious areas that discharge runoff into the trigger area over the pavement surface, and
- (c) additional contiguous areas that drain through or adjacent to the trigger area through a ditch or pipe, in cases where the ditch or pipe are modified by the project.



EP Triggers – Fish Passage (Part 1)

Key Scope Component for Bridges and Culverts

ODFW Clear span

- $1.2 \times \text{ACW} + 2'$

NOAA

- $1.5 \times \text{ACW}$ (single span)
- $2.2 \times \text{ACW}$ (multi-span)
- Clear unobstructed opening above general scour prism





EP Triggers – Fish Passage (Part 2)

Applicability

- Native migratory fish present or historically present
- Artificial obstruction present

ODFW Fish Passage Triggers (Excerpted)

- Widen fill footprint
- New road, culvert, bridge, overflow, apron wingwall
- Culvert extensions (with some caveats)
- Replace any part of a culvert (with some caveats)
- Reduce inside diameter of a culvert
- Cumulative repairs/mods to 50 percent of structure
- Modifications that otherwise worsen fish passage

EP Triggers – Cultural Resources (Part 1)



- Known cultural resources
- Adverse effects require a MOA & mitigation



EP Triggers – Cultural Resources (Part 2)



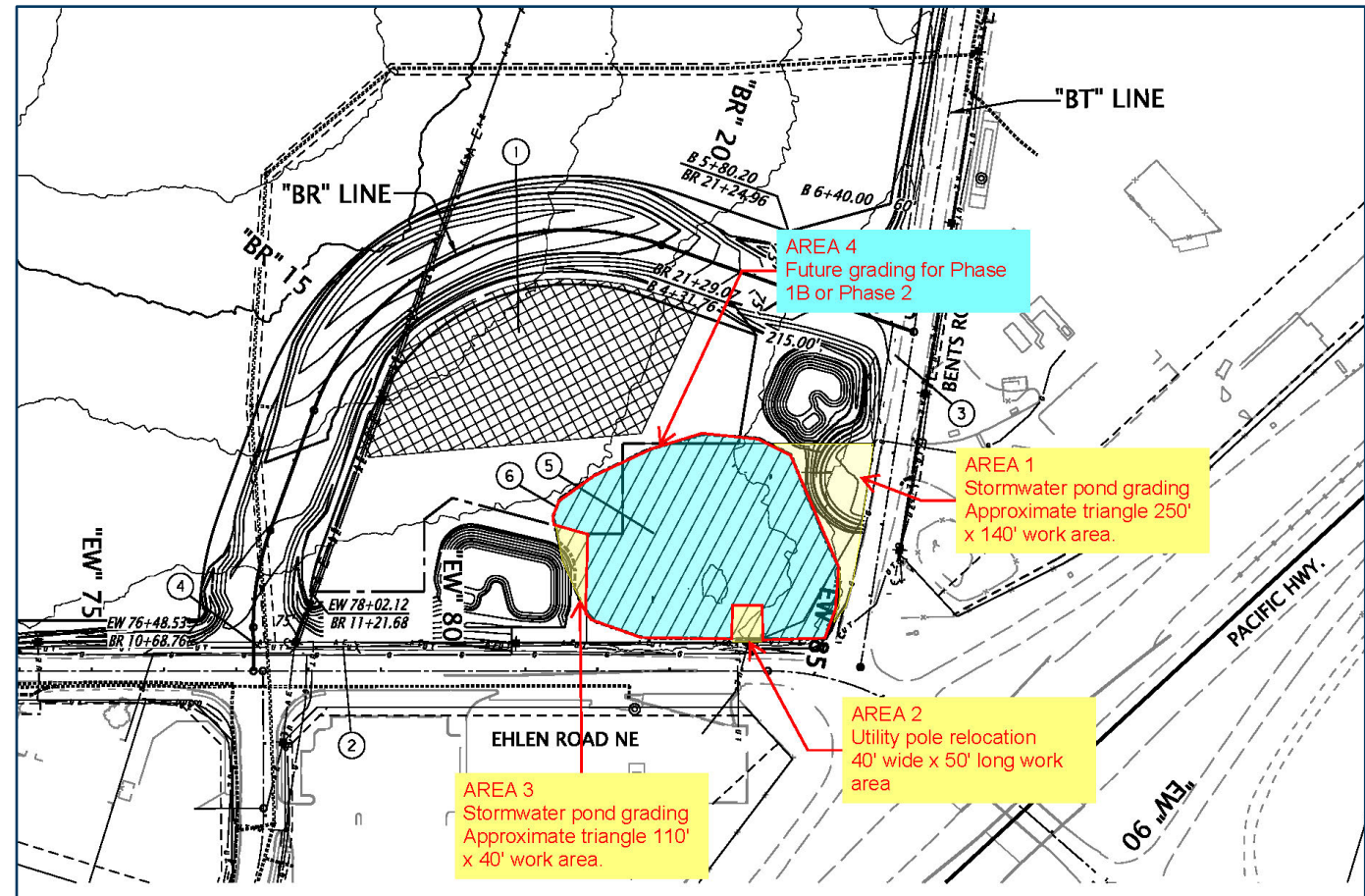
Mitigation measures

- Photographic and historic documentation
- ESRI storymap
- Interpretive signage
- Bridge design elements

EP Triggers – Cultural Resources (Part 3)

Mitigation measures

- Data recovery & curation
- Articles for public dissemination
- Digital media
- Regional education & research
- Oral history interviews



EP Triggers – Cultural Resources (Part 4)



I-5 Aurora-Donald Archaeological Data Recovery



EP Triggers – Cultural Resources (Part 5)



EP Triggers – Cultural Resources (Part 6)

Katagami stencilware
made in Japan
(scale in inches)



Hand-painted redware
fragment with impressed
“OGN”



Glass slag marble ~1920s



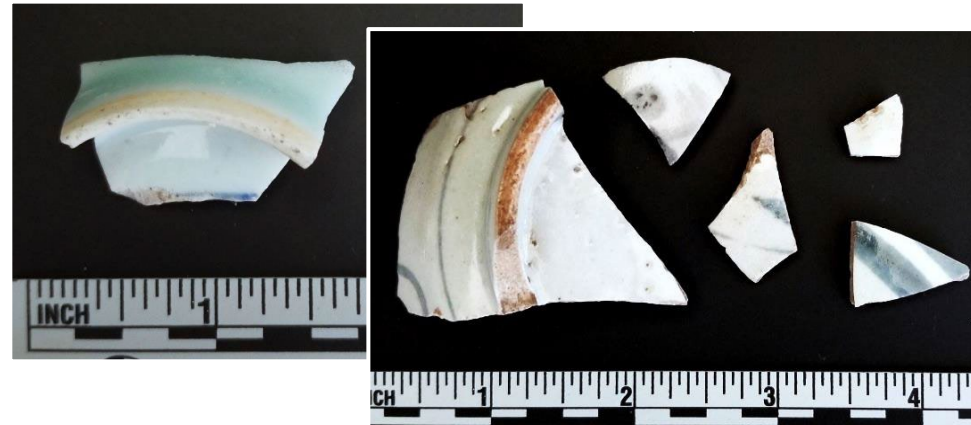
Partial glass medicinal vial
made in China



Bamboo bowls



Imported Chinese porcelain



Chinese coin (wen)



EP Triggers – Wetlands & Permits (Part 1)

- Triggered by fill/removal in waters of the state or US
- PE timing considerations
- Post-construction monitoring
- Mitigation
 - Banking can be \$100,000+ per acre
 - Permittee-responsible mitigation



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PORTLAND DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 2946
PORTLAND, OR 97208-2946

January 10, 2023

Regulatory Branch
Corps No. NWP-2022-328

Mr. Andrew Morris
Washington County LUT-CPS
1400 SW Walnut Street
Hillsboro, OR 97133
andrew.morris@co.washington.or.us

Dear Mr. Morris:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) received your request for Department of the Army authorization to place fill into 794 square feet below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of the Tualatin River. The project is proposed in the Tualatin River adjacent to South Road near Gaston, Washington County, Oregon at Latitude/Longitude: 45.526553°, -123.084315°. This letter verifies your project as depicted on the enclosed drawings (Enclosure 1) is authorized by Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 14, Linear Transportation Projects (Federal Register, December 27, 2021, Vol. 86, No. 245).

The authorized work includes removal and replacement of a roadway and bridge crossing over the Tualatin River. The permittee is authorized to permanently discharge below the OHWM of the Tualatin River approximately 64 cubic yards (cy) of rock and streambed gravel in 794 square feet and excavate approximately 112 cy of material from 896 square feet. The permittee is also authorized to temporarily discharge approximately 23 cy of sandbags in 155 square feet below the OHWM of the Tualatin River for work area isolation.

In order for this authorization to be valid, you must ensure the work is performed in accordance with the enclosed Nationwide Permit 14 Terms and Conditions (Enclosure 2); the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) 401 Water Quality Certification Conditions (Enclosure 3); and the following special conditions:

- This Corps permit does not authorize you to take an endangered species in particular those species identified in Enclosure 4. In order to legally take a listed species, you must have separate authorization under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (e.g., an ESA Section 10 permit, or a biological opinion under ESA Section 7, with "incidental take" provisions with which you must comply). The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Stormwater, Transportation and Utilities programmatic biological opinion dated March 14, 2014 (NMFS Reference

EP Triggers – Wetlands & Permits (Part 2)

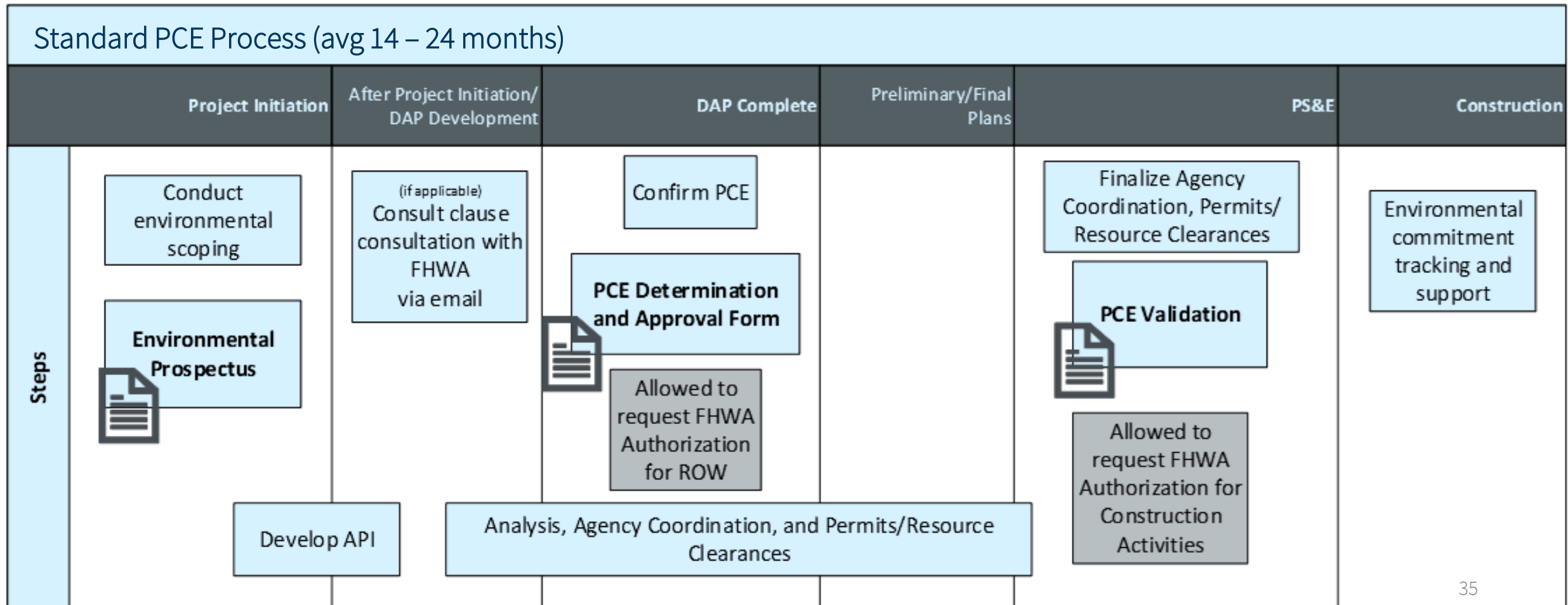




EP Triggers – NEPA

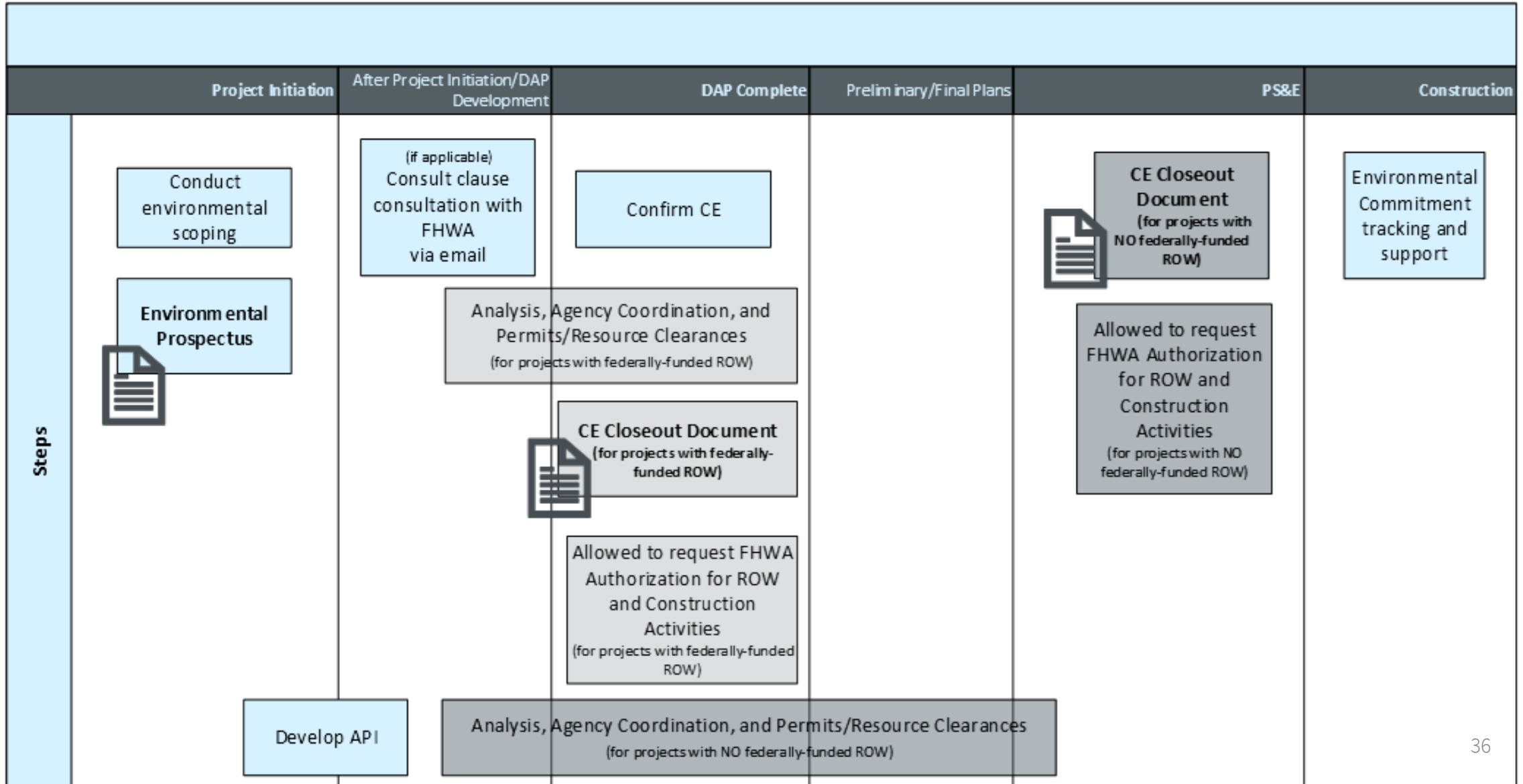
- PCE Kickouts, effect to schedule

HANDOUT 7





EP Triggers – NEPA (Part 2)



Environmental Prospectus – Changes

What happens if things change?





Environmental Prospectus – Best Practices



Meet with REC to review the project and ask/answer questions.



Be ready to field questions as the REC works through the Environmental Prospectus checklist.



Read it! Ask questions. Make sure you understand the recommendations.



A Pause for Questions





Project Descriptions

- Foundation of all environmental work
- Becomes more specific over time
- REC takes in project scope information, translates to the NEPA Project Description
- Existing documents can be a starting point
 - STIP Scoping notes
 - Technical scope sheet
 - Grant applications as applicable
- Necessary scope Information to support the Environmental Prospectus:
 - Description of project elements - as specific as possible
 - Identify any unknowns
 - Include a map (DRAFT API)
- Best practice is to meet with REC to ask/answer questions

Description of work from Project Manager

(Part 1)

“This project proposes to upgrade the existing signal at SW 9th and SW Mill Street to improve traffic flow and meet current standards.”

- Signal heads only?
- New or existing poles?
- New or existing conduit?
- Geotech drilling needed?
(Clearances needed)



Description of work from Project Manager (Part 2)

“This project proposes pedestrian facility improvements throughout the downtown corridor from Mountain View Road to Union Street by providing ADA accessible ramps, modifying curbs, and installing high visibility crosswalks.”

- Extending curb?
- Adding inlets/drainage system?
- Installing sidewalk as well?
- Will pedestrian facilities be separated from the roadway?



Description of work from Project Manager (Part 3)

“This project will rehabilitate the Church Street (Alder Creek) bridge.”

- What is the problem the project seeks to address?
- What part(s) of the bridge?
- Will there be work in the water?
- Ancillary elements (diversion structure)?





NEPA Project Description

A clear, accurate, and well-written project description in PCE and CE documentation is essential for the environmental review process by:

- Ensuring decision makers, reviewers, and environmental resource/discipline specialists understand the full scope and context of the proposed action;
- Establishing the basis for identifying and evaluating the project's reasonably foreseeable environmental effects; and
- Documenting that the project qualifies for a CE per 23 CFR 771.117.



NEPA Project Description (continued)

- The PCE/CE project description should provide more detail than the descriptions in relevant planning documents, the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and funding agreements, but it must not conflict with them.
- The PCE/CE project description should clearly explain all activities relevant to the environmental review, with the level of detail scaled to the project's size and complexity.
- The project description should focus on design elements that influence environmental outcomes and include timing or avoidance measures intended to reduce impacts. It should be written in clear, accessible language for someone with no prior knowledge of the project to understand what is being proposed.

NEPA Project Description – Required Elements

1. Transportation objective
2. The scope of the work, including:
 - Required mitigation
 - Construction phasing
 - Traffic management activities (e.g., detours, diversion bridges)
3. Project Limits





Exercise (part 1)



“REPLACE BRIDGE”

What information would you expect to provide to the REC?



Exercise (part 2)



“REPLACE BRIDGE”

How would you develop a project description for use in CE/PCE NEPA documents?



Exercise (part 3)

1. Transportation objective

“The existing bridge at [location] is a critical link between emergency services and a population center; it is structurally and seismically deficient and lacks pedestrian facilities. This project proposes to replace the bridge to extend the service life of the crossing, maintain access to emergency services during an earthquake, and improve pedestrian mobility.”



Exercise (part 4)

2. The scope of the work.

“The proposed bridge will be approximately 80 feet in length and will accommodate two lanes of traffic, bike lanes, and sidewalks. The project proposes to maintain one lane of traffic during construction via a traffic diversion bridge and a temporary signal or flaggers. Required stormwater treatment facilities will be constructed near the bridge ends. An adjacent gravel pullout area will be offered as a prospective staging area.”



Exercise (part 5)

3. Project Termini.

“Approach paving will extend to the project termini: the intersection of [street] and [street] to the north and [street] and [street] to the south.”



Exercise (part 6)

The existing bridge at [location] is a critical link between emergency services and a population center; it is structurally and seismically deficient and pedestrian facilities are substandard. This project proposes to replace the bridge to extend the service life of the crossing, maintain access to emergency services during an earthquake, and improve pedestrian mobility.

The proposed bridge will be approximately 80 feet in length and will accommodate two lanes of traffic, bike lanes, and sidewalks. The project proposes to maintain one lane of traffic during construction via a traffic diversion bridge and a temporary signal or flaggers. Required stormwater treatment facilities will be constructed near the bridge ends. An adjacent gravel pullout area will be offered as a prospective staging area.

Approach paving will extend to the project termini: the intersection of [street] and [street] to the north and [street] and [street] to the south.

Review Best Practices

Meet with the REC at the outset. Other relevant participants include:

- Local Agency Liaison
- Local Agency Engineer
- ODOT R/W representative

If there is scope change (even minor) – alert the REC





An Opportunity For Questions



Area of Potential Impact

Uses, Process, Common Pitfalls





Area of Potential Impact (API) Defined

“The Area of Potential Impact is the physical footprint of all project activities.”

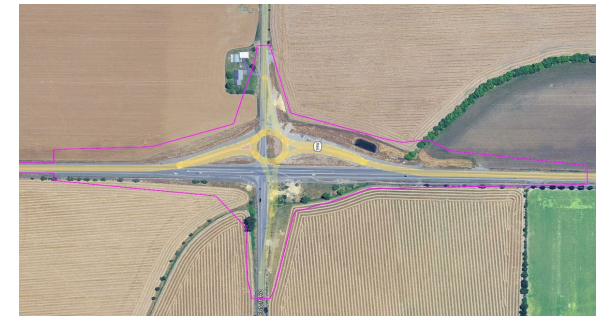
“It comprises the area where direct effects to environmental resources may occur, including all design elements, space to construct those elements, all reasonably foreseeable access routes, and mandatory & prospective staging areas.”

Examples of elements to include:

- Cuts/Fills
- Right-of-way Acquisition
- Sign installation
- Access routes
- Detour routes if any physical improvements are proposed
- Barge spudding
- Environmental Mitigation
- Conduit installation
- Other construction activities

How We Use the API

- Identify where Rights-of-Entry are needed
- Geographic basis for identifying environmental resources
- Determine where No Work Areas and Regulated Work Areas need to be shown on plans
- Support Environmental clearances
- Each environmental discipline develops their own discipline-specific impact boundary



API Example



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

0 125 250 500 Feet

OR18 Spur: South Yamhill River Br #06758
KN 19389
Environmental Resources, API, Proposed Structures

Offsite API Example



Oregon Department of Transportation

OR18 spur: South Yamhill River Bridge (McMinnville) Vicinity Map

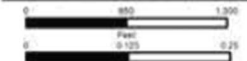
Federal Aid-Number: S483(000)

ODOT Key Number: 19389

County: Yamhill

City: McMinnville

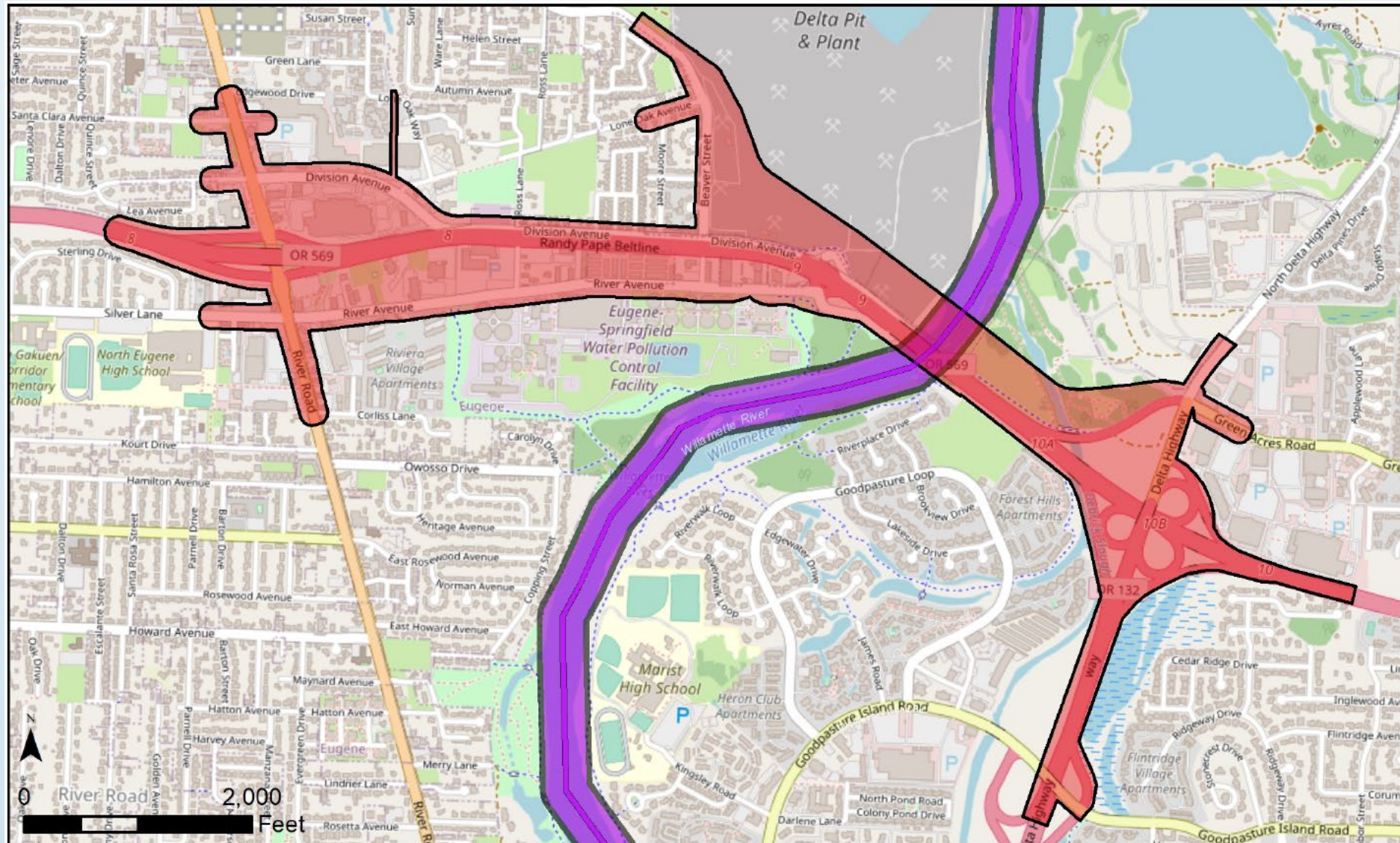
Disclaimer:
This product is for informational purposes and may not be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this product should review and consult the primary data sources to determine the usability of the information. Conclusions drawn from this information are the responsibility of the user.



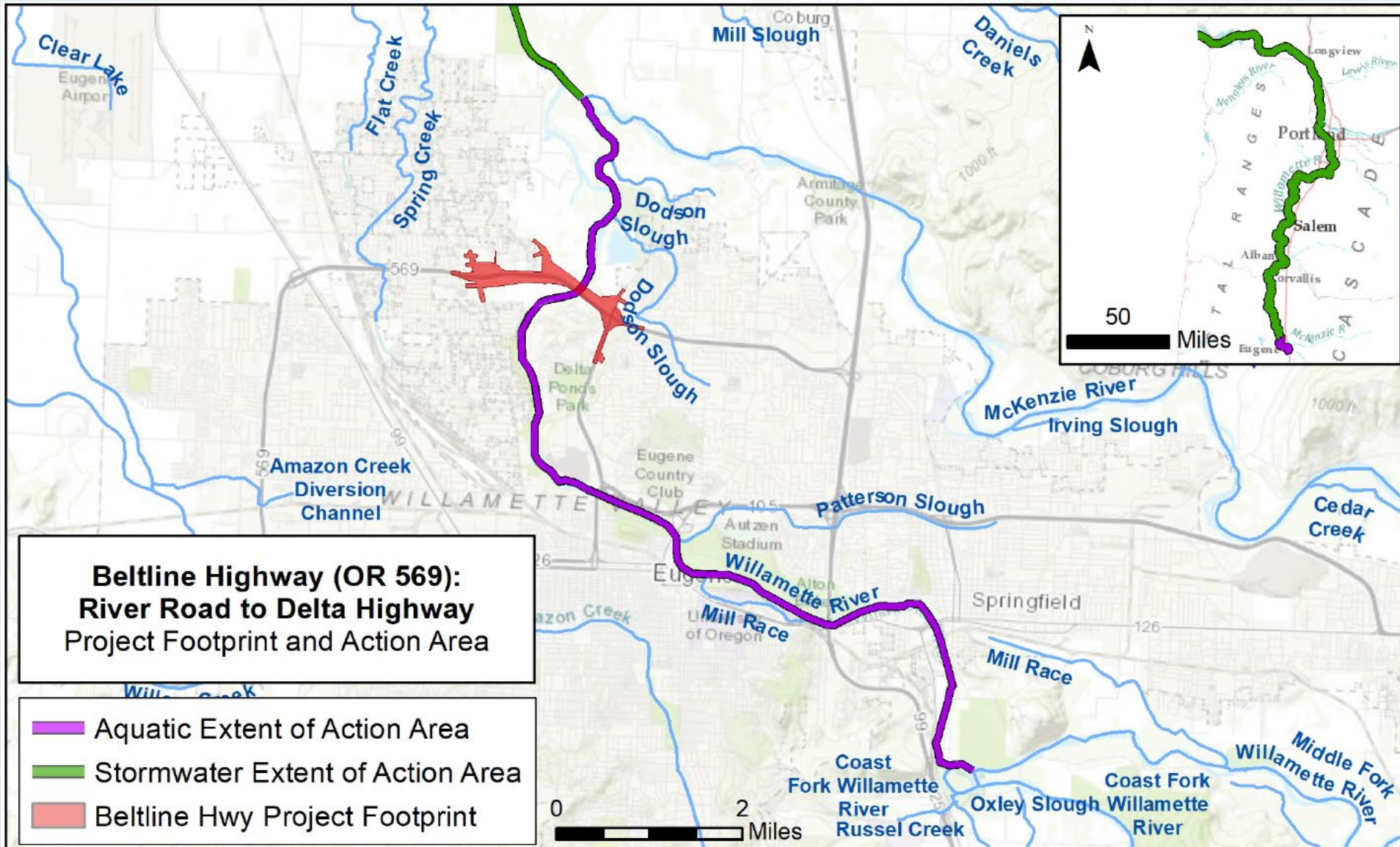
- Area of Potential Impact
- South Yamhill River

- NRCS Wetland Reserve Program Easement
- Willamette Valley Medical Center

Discipline-Specific Use of API



Discipline-Specific Use of API Continued





API Changes

API changes during the DAP phase are sometimes necessary. API changes close to or after DAP Completion should be avoided.

The entire team should be aware of the API and on the lookout for design or scope changes that may affect it.

Any changes to the API should be communicated to the REC immediately.

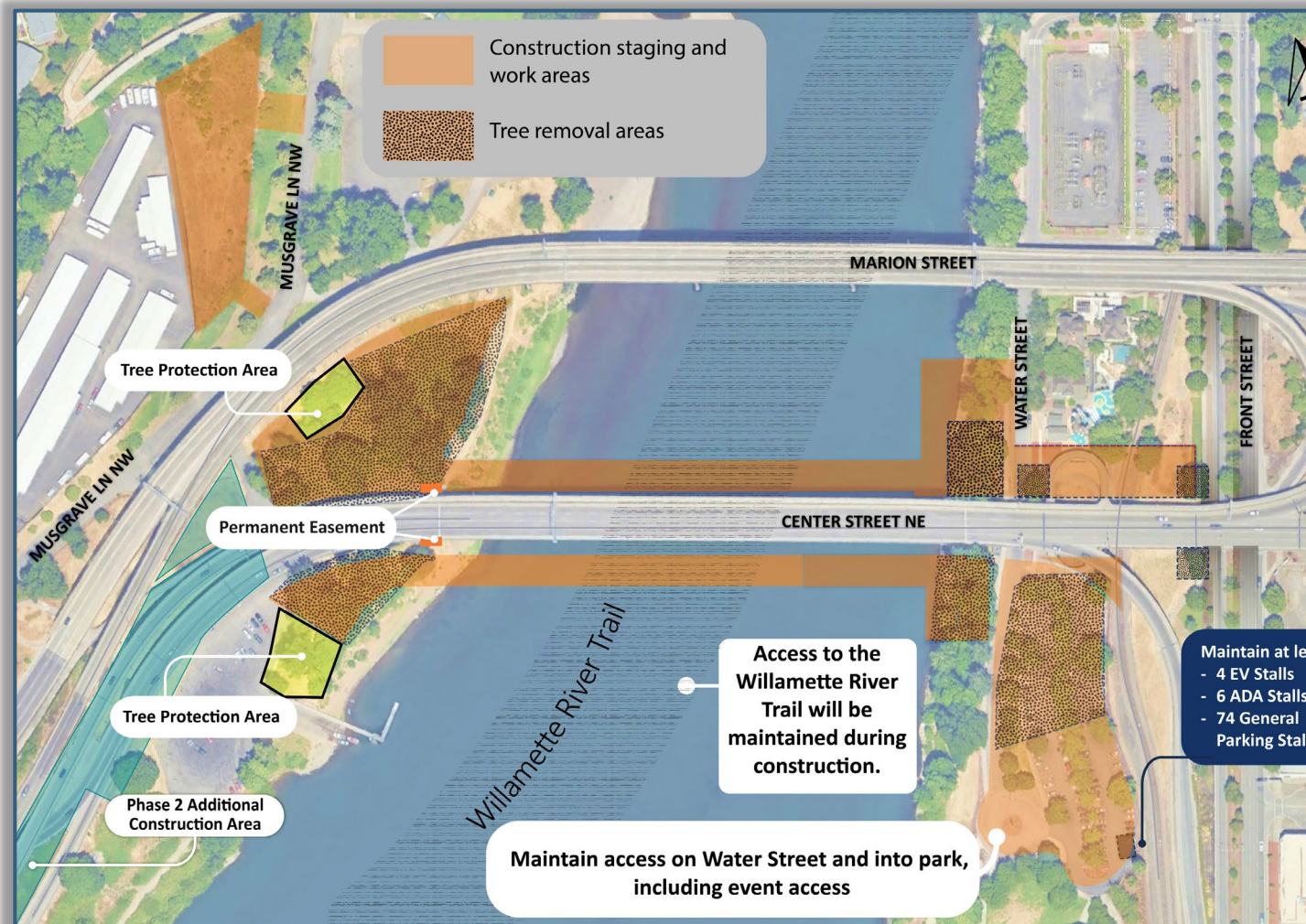
Increases in API size after Environmental has initiated field investigations may result in additional work. Depending on resources present, schedule may be affected.



Common Pitfalls and Special Cases

- Environmental Mitigation
 - Riparian plantings
 - Permittee-responsible wetland mitigation
 - Offsetting for fill in the functional floodplain
- Offsite stormwater treatment
- Turbidity monitoring easements
- Construction Access
- Waiting too long to create an API to get it exactly right

Special Case - Staging Areas



- Contractor-designated
- Prospective
- Mandatory

Special Case - Utilities

If reimbursable or included in the construction contract, they must be included in the API and environmental clearances





A Moment For Questions





Statements of Work



Certified Program SOW Library is the required starting place for environmental task language



SOW language translates the work described in the Environmental Prospectus into a contract.



Use contingency tasks for unknowns



REC reviews SOW for adequacy (REC coordinates internal Specialist review)



Questions?

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Please refer project specific questions to your REC.