Water for *today* and *tomorrow*

Fact Sheet

Lake Powell Pipeline
Managing Environmental Impacts

Extensive environmental studies have been conducted for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Lake Powell Pipeline (LPP) to evaluate impacts from the construction, operation and maintenance of the project. The studies have found that the LPP project will have very few permanent environmental impacts. The 140-mile route mostly follows existing roads, alignments or designated utility corridors to minimize disturbances to natural, cultural, historic and archeological resources.

Plus, recent design modifications have reduced the environmental footprint even further. Following federal regulators' recommendations, the Utah Division of Water Resources eliminated two reservoirs designed to generate hydropower at peak demand. While the project will still be able to produce hydropower using inline facilities, the changes reduce impacts on both desert tortoise habitat and waters of the U.S. This fact sheet outlines the resources that were studied and the actions that will be taken to protect the environment and resources during construction and operation of the water pipeline. The project has been planned to avoid or minimize both temporary and permanent environmental impacts.

Resource to Protect	Studies Found	Mitigation/Actions
Threatened and Endangered Species	✓ LPP would not likely adversely affect listed fish species and would have minimal effects on listed terrestrial species.	✓ Project will avoid construction in certain areas during bird nesting/breeding seasons. ✓ Habitat will be restored after construction. ✓ Desert tortoises will be monitored and protected during construction.
Wildlife	✓ LPP would not have substantial impacts on wildlife.	✓ Habitat will be restored after construction. ✓ Permanent facilities will be sited (e.g. away from wildlife highway crossings) and designed (e.g. down lighting) to limit disturbance.
Fish and Riparian Habitat	✓ LPP would have negligible impacts on stream and river flows and water quality and would not adversely impact fish species. ✓ Riparian habitat impacts would be limited and temporary.	✓ LPP ensures up to 83,756 acre feet of water will continue to flow more than 400 river miles downstream through valuable riparian and fish habitat in the Colorado River system. ✓ Riparian habitat will be restored after construction.
Wetlands/Waters of the U.S.	✓ LPP would not impact wetlands. ✓ LPP would permanently impact less than 0.1 acres of waters of the U.S.	✓ All temporary disturbances at mostly dry drainage crossings with limited riparian habitat would be performed when the drainages have little or no flow and restored after construction.

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Plants	✓ Several sensitive plant species have been identified within the LPP rights of way (ROWs).	✓ Construction activities will be adjusted as feasible to avoid sensitive plant species. ✓ If the special status plant species cannot be avoided, seeds will be collected for replanting. ✓ Other habitat will be restored after construction using site-specific revegetation methods.
Cultural Resources/ Paleontological Resources	✓ LPP would not have substantial impacts on paleontological resources along the pipeline alignment in the vicinity.	✓ Any fossils recovered during field surveys or construction monitoring will be prepared in accordance with standard professional paleontological techniques.
Air Quality	✓ LPP will have negligible permanent effects on air quality.	✓ Dust control permits will be obtained for each construction contract in accordance with local, county and/or state requirements. ✓ Dust will be controlled during construction according to best management practices.
Visual Impacts	✓ LPP will have negligible to moderate visual effects, but the project does conform to all federal visual resource management objectives.	✓ Above ground facilities will blend with the colors of the surrounding landscape. ✓ The pipeline alignment will be restored to blend with the surrounding landscape. ✓ Nighttime lighting will be on timers or sensors and shielded and directed toward the facility.
Noise	✓ Short-term noise impacts from construction and long-term noise impacts from facility operations will not have a significant impact on people or wildlife in the project vicinity.	✓ Best management practices will be used to reduce noise from construction equipment. ✓ Facilities will be designed to dampen noise.
Sand Hollow Reservoir	✓ Quagga mussels, an invasive species, are found in Lake Powell and at the confluence of the Virgin River at Lake Mead.	✓ The intake at Lake Powell, where the water enters the pipe, will be treated with ultraviolet disinfection and an approved molluscicide. ✓ Water would be passed through a filter(s) to help minimize mussels from reaching Sand Hollow Reservoir. ✓ Quagga mussels will be monitored and treated/filtered at each pump station and hydro station as needed.