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Consultation request / Skyline, Swens Canyon Vent Facility, Task 4965

1 message

Lisa Reinhart <lreinhart@utah.gov>

Tue, Sep 29, 2015 at 7:31 AM

To: Makeda Hanson <makedatrujillo@utah.gov>

Cc: Suzanne Steab <suzannesteab@utah.gov>

Hi Makeda,

Pursuant to the MOU for Implementation of the Utah Conservation Plan for Greater Sage-grouse, I am initiating consultation on an amendment we are reviewing. Although the MOU is specific to Sage-grouse, there are a few other species I hope we can discuss and evaluate.

The amendment is to include the Swens Canyon Ventilation Shaft into the existing permit. The shaft is needed to provide adequate ventilation to workings within the existing lease. The proposed disturbed area is located adjacent to SR264 and at the mouth of Swens Canyon. A power line will be installed to provide power for the facilities. Total new surface disturbance to be reclaimed is 14.50 acres with 4.8 acres associated with the power line and 9.7 acres with the ventilation facility. I have attached a map that I put together of the general vicinity.

The project is located within the Carbon County Greater Sage-grouse Management Unit. The shaft location is outside brooding and nesting habitat boundaries (as determined by UDWR GIS data) but is in close proximity (1 mile) to occupied habitat. The site contains all requirements for nesting and brooding.

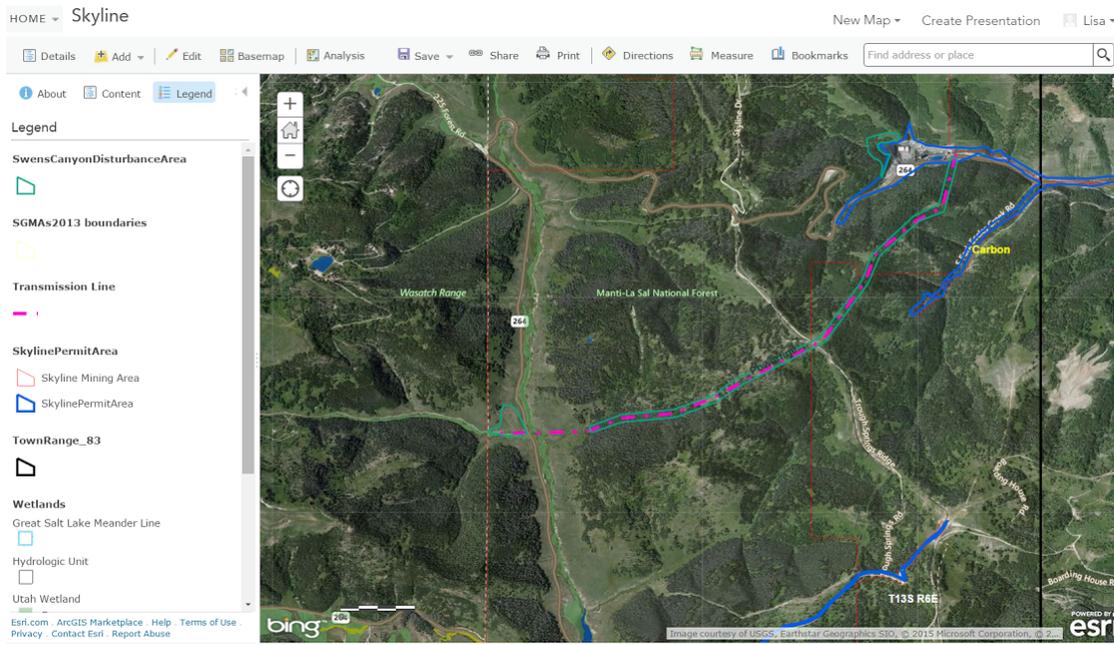
There is also an occurrence record of the western toad in very close proximity to this site.

Species I hope to consult on are: Greater sage-grouse, American three-toed woodpecker, Southwestern willow flycatcher, and western boreal toad.

I hope we can schedule an on-site with all the necessary people as soon as reasonably possible... the sooner the better. Our due date for the first round of comments was today... and I had deficiencies noted on all these mentioned species. I would like to meet on-site and evaluate the need for surveys... and potential mitigation for any species that are likely to be impacted.

Let me know who to involve and I will set up a doodle poll for everyone's availability.

Thanks,



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