

Stribley, Sara

Subject: Keystone ENSR - Meeting with the SDGFP
Location: Pierre, South Dakota

Start: Fri 2/2/2007 9:00 AM
End: Fri 2/2/2007 11:00 AM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Meeting organizer

Required Attendees: Doug.Backlund@state.sd.us

Hi Doug,

ENSR would like to meet with you in early February to review the biological surveys that are planned for the Keystone Pipeline Project in 2007 and 2008 in South Dakota. Would the following meeting date and time work for you?

Date: Friday, February 2, 2007

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Pierre, SD- SDGFP Office

ENSR is planning on sending you a package by next week containing all of the information regarding the upcoming biological surveys for the Project in South Dakota. We are hoping to use the information contained in this package as the template for discussions at the February meeting. Please feel free to invite other SDGFP representatives if needed. Please let me know at your earliest convenience if you would or would not be able to attend this meeting.

Thanks and Happy New Year,
Sara

Sara Stribley
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December 19, 2006

Doug Backlund
South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
Foss Building
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-3182

Dear Mr. Backlund:

At this time, ENSR Corporation (ENSR) is providing you with survey reports detailing information collected along the Keystone Pipeline Project during the fall of 2006 in South Dakota for the following federally threatened or endangered species: Topeka shiner (*Notropis Topeka*), winged mapleleaf (*Quadrula fragosa*), scaleshell mussel (*Leptodea leptodon*), Dakota skipper (*Hesperia dacotae*), and western prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera praeclara*).

Project Description

TransCanada is planning to construct and operate an approximately 1,845-mile-long interstate crude oil transmission system from an oil supply hub near Hardisty, Alberta, Canada to destinations in the Midwestern United States (U.S.). The proposed Project would consist of approximately 1,078 miles of new pipeline constructed from the U.S.-Canada border in Cavalier County, North Dakota, to terminals and refineries in Wood River (Madison County) and Patoka (Marion County), Illinois. This pipeline is referred to as the Keystone Mainline. Approximately 283 miles of the Keystone Mainline would parallel the proposed Rockies Express Pipeline - West (REX-West) Project in Kansas and Missouri. In addition, TransCanada proposes to construct a 292-mile pipeline extension (Cushing Extension) that would extend from the Keystone Mainline south from the Nebraska/Kansas border to Cushing, Oklahoma. TransCanada proposes to begin construction of the Keystone Mainline in early 2008, with the system in-service by the end of 2009. Work on the Cushing Extension will begin in late 2009 or early 2010, with a Cushing Extension in-service date of 2010. The project also will require the construction of pump stations, valves, meters, and other ancillary facilities. The hydraulic characteristics of the pipeline will determine pump station and valve locations. Electrical powerlines and facility upgrades will be required in some locations to provide power for the new pump stations, though these facilities will be constructed by local utility companies, not Keystone.

Biological Survey Reports

Attached for your review are three separate reports summarizing the Topeka shiner habitat surveys, unionid surveys, and native grassland surveys that were conducted in South Dakota during the fall of 2006 for the Keystone Pipeline Project.

Topeka shiner surveys were conducted from September 14 through 17, 2006, in **Clark, Beadle, Kingsbury, Miner, Hansen, McCook, Hutchinson, and Yankton** counties. Field surveys for the winged mapleleaf, scaleshell mussel, and other unionids were conducted at the proposed James River crossing of the Project in Yankton County on September 9 and 16, 2006. Surveys were conducted at stream crossings identified as potential habitat for each species through consultation with the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Department (SDGFP), South Dakota Natural Heritage Program (SDNHP), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

Doug Backlund
December 19, 2006
Page 2

Native grassland surveys were conducted to identify suitable habitat for the Dakota skipper (*Hesperia dacotae*) and western prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera praeclara*) from September 11 through 16, 2006, in **Marshall, Day, Clark, Kingsbury, Miner, McCook, Hutchinson, and Yankton** counties. Surveys were conducted in counties identified as having potential habitat for these two species through consultation with the SDGFP, SDNHP, and USFWS.

Based on your review of the survey findings, we are asking for your input and recommendations on further survey efforts for the Topeka shiner, winged mapleleaf, scaleshell mussel, Dakota skipper, and western prairie fringed orchid that would be required by the SDGFP. We have provided a "Comments and Recommendations" form to aid in your assessment of the report findings. Please return this form to ENSR at your earliest convenience in order for us to promptly address any concerns.

ENSR will be following up with you in early January to discuss the reports in more detail and to consult on any further surveys that would be required for these species. Copies of these reports also have been sent to John Cochnar (Nebraska USFWS – Project Lead). Additional copies of the reports are enclosed for distribution to other state game and fish representatives. If you have any questions regarding the enclosed materials, you may also contact me at (970) 493-8878 ext. 181 or by email at cjohnson@ensr.aecom.com.

Sincerely,



Charles Johnson
Senior Wildlife Biologist

CJ/sc

Enc. A Field Survey of Suitable Habitat for the Topeka Shiner (*Notropis topeka*) for the Keystone Pipeline Project in South Dakota (x2)

A Field Survey for the Winged Mapleleaf (*Quadrula fagosa*), and Scaleshell Mussel (*Leptodea leptodon*) for the Keystone Pipeline Project at the James River Crossing in South Dakota (x2)

A Field Survey of the Keystone Pipeline Project Construction Corridor in North and South Dakota for Dakota Skipper (*Hesperia dacotae*) Habitat, Western Prairie Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera praeclara*) Habitat, and for Native Grassland (x2)

Surveyor Qualifications

Doug Backlund
December 19, 2006
Page 3

Keystone Pipeline Project Survey Report (Topeka Shiner)
Comment and Recommendation Form

<u>Sect. #</u>	<u>Para. #</u>	<u>Specific Comments</u>

<u>Recommendations</u>

Name

Title

Date

Doug Backlund
December 19, 2006
Page 4

Keystone Pipeline Project Survey Report (Unionids)
Comment and Recommendation Form

<u>Sect. #</u>	<u>Para. #</u>	<u>Specific Comments</u>

<u>Recommendations</u>

Name

Title

Date

Doug Backlund
December 19, 2006
Page 5

Keystone Pipeline Project Survey Report (Native Grassland)
Comment and Recommendation Form

<u>Sect. #</u>	<u>Para. #</u>	<u>Specific Comments</u>

<u>Recommendations</u>

Name

Title

Date