

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
WATERSHED PLAN – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

FOR

CROOKED CREEK WATERSHED PLAN

Lead Cooperating Agency:



Draft
October 2021



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1.0 Introduction

This Public Participation Plan (PPP) has been developed to describe how the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Moore Engineering, Inc., and other members of the Project Team will conduct the public participation process in preparing a Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Crooked Creek Watershed Plan. The purpose of this project is to identify project alternatives that could be potentially developed in the future. The final product of this process will identify the preferred alternative that could be pursued for future funding and implementation.

The following pages detail how the team intends to:

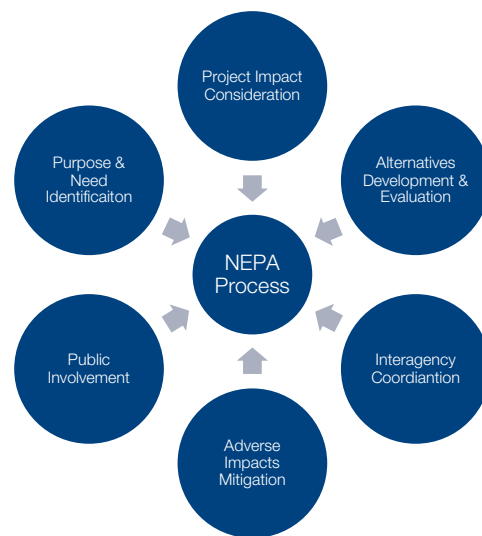
- Inform and involve the public, project stakeholders, elected officials, media, and agencies
- Solicit public, stakeholder, and agency input
- Comply with the requirements of NRCS policies and regulations and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The purpose of NEPA is to ensure agencies make informed decisions, considering a variety of possible alternatives and the environmental consequences. NEPA provides a mechanism for federal agencies to acknowledge environmentally significant aspects of a proposed action before decisions and guarantees the public is provided a role in the federal decision-making process including notices, involvement, and comment periods.

Public Participation Plan (PPP) Organization

The main section of this PPP answers the fundamental “what” and “why” questions of the program—detailing what strategies, activities, tools, methods, etc., will be used, and why. The appendices—which include scoping/hearing plans, a media plan, and a roles/responsibilities matrix— answer the more specific questions of “who,” “when,” “where” and “how,” providing all the necessary details for implementation, scheduling, logistics, and team responsibilities, among other things.



Source: Parsons Brinckerhof

Watershed Plan & Environmental Assessment

The Project Team will prepare a Watershed Plan (Plan) pursuant to PL 83-566 and in accordance with the NRCS National Watershed Program Manual (NWPM-390-500-M, 4th edition as amended April 2014), and evaluate the potential impacts that would result from the Crooked Creek Watershed Plan within an EA, pursuant to NEPA regulations at 40 CFR 1500-1508; NRCS procedures for implementing NEPA 7 CFR Part 650; NRCS General Manual Part 410; and, the NRCS National Environment Compliance Handbook.

2.0 Purpose of Public Participation

The primary goal of public participation, and one of the fundamental elements of NEPA, is to ensure that all interested and affected parties are aware and informed of the proposed action. A strategic, flexible, and dynamic process of public participation and stakeholder communication is

paramount to ensuring that stakeholders have reasonable access to planning information, as well as ample opportunity to submit comments and input about the Plan and EA.

An effective outreach program helps the Project Team achieve its goals and objectives by identifying the people to be reached and engaging them through proven outreach tools and techniques.

This PPP has been developed—and will be continually updated—to help ensure a comprehensive and effective public participation process that aids the project team’s analytical and decision-making processes.

3.0 Public Participation Process

The implementation of a holistic and effective public participation program facilitates the identification of impacts early in the plan to adequately address potential issues and public concerns. A variety of parties and entities will likely be affected and interested in the project.



Typically, a proactive public participation program that informs and educates the public greatly reduces the probability of misperceptions and future project delays by resolving and addressing concerns early in the process. In addition, input from the public can enhance the federal decision-making process through the contribution of information and ideas for project alternatives. Furthermore, the public participation program fulfills the vital federal requirement to obtain *meaningful* public participation, thereby yielding a widely supported and sustainable result.

The purpose of this PPP is to provide clear and comprehensive guidance to the project team in the implementation of NEPA-related program components and activities. The program is intended to inform stakeholders about the projects, its progress, and, most importantly, opportunities to provide formal input.

Public participation program efforts will include early issue identification, public notification, preparation and publication of handout and display materials, advertisements, maps, posters, and meeting logistics. Moore will coordinate with NRCS about the PPP to ensure that it meets input and guidance from the state, local, and federal agency levels. All materials shall be approved by the NRCS prior to issuance or publication. Media sources may include newspaper, internet, and other sources deemed necessary to reach the affected populations and other interested parties. A SharePoint through the internet site will be utilized as practical to review and gauge materials broadcast by affected groups. The website of the Sargent County Water Resource District will also contain information to help guide this process.



Water Resource
District



Agency



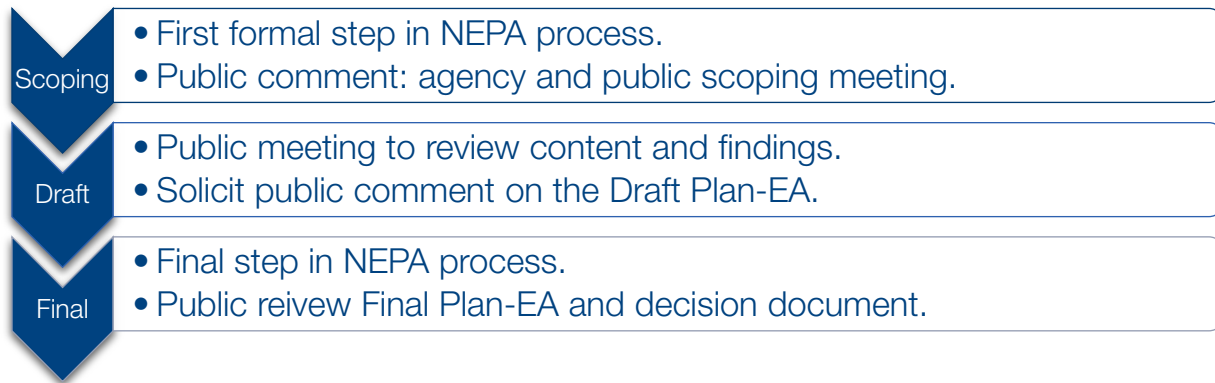
Public



Moore
Engineering Inc.

4.0 Public Participation Phases

The plan is divided into three phases. The **scoping** phase will be the initial introduction of the plan to agencies and the public and will identify issues and potential alternatives. The scoping phase will be followed by the **Draft Plan-EA** phase, where the proposed action and alternatives will be analyzed, and public comment requested. The third phase is associated with the **Final Plan-EA** and decision document.



4.1 Scoping

Scoping is the first formal step in the NEPA process. It is a public and open process to identify the issues that will be evaluated in the EA. The scoping process will include an agency and public scoping meeting.

Scoping will provide an opportunity for agencies and the public to learn about the Crooked Creek Watershed Plan and express concerns, ideas, and comments. The scoping phase will initiate an information exchange between the planning teams, the public, and affected or interested agencies.

Scoping Meeting Locations/Dates:

An interagency scoping meeting is planned to occur early in the process to receive feedback from agencies on potential issues to consider. The meeting will occur October 13, 2021. It is anticipated this meeting will be held at the Forman City Hall, 349 Main Street – Forman, North Dakota.



The public scoping meeting will be held after initial data collection is completed so more details are able to be provided to the public during the meeting. The purpose of the public meeting will be to identify potential public concerns early on and receive feedback on potential alternatives to address.

Agencies will also be invited to an interagency onsite field visit that will be held at any proposed project sites incorporated into the preferred alternative for the Crooked Creek Watershed Plan. The field visit will give interested agency members an opportunity to visit the proposed project sites (dam, channels, recreation areas, etc.) in person and provide feedback. It is anticipated the field visit will occur the same day or immediately following the public scoping meeting.

Meeting Facilities: Moore will reserve a room and published the location with at least 14 days advanced notice to the public. The current location will be used and notice of any changes will be published: Forman City Hall, 349 Main Street – Forman, North Dakota.

Public Noticing: Prior to the public scoping meeting, meeting information will be announced through the local newspapers and other local media. Newspaper notices announcing the public scoping meeting will be published in the paper of record at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

Federal Cooperating Agencies: Letter invitations will be distributed by NRCS to federal (USACE and USFWS) at least two weeks prior to the agency scoping meeting.

Agency Scoping Invitations: Letter invitations will be distributed by MOORE to federal, state, and local agencies at least two weeks prior to the agency scoping meeting.

Tribal Consultation: Tribal government-to-government consultation will be handled by the NRCS's State Cultural Resource Specialist, who will inform tribal governments of the scoping process and meetings and coordinate, as necessary, with tribal wildlife and cultural resource personnel. MOORE will be available to help with this coordination if needed.

Media/Additional Outreach: In addition to placing public scoping meeting ads in the newspapers of record, additional media strategies and tools will be considered to maximize publicity for the meetings. These may include:

- Press releases/advisories
- Community/civic group outreach
- Watershed plan websites



The NRCS will issue a press release on the final formal 60-day public comment period on the EA. All other outreach will be completed Water Resource District.

More details on **Public Participation Tools** are provided in Section 7.0 below.

Appendix A: Typical Meeting: Appendix A contains more detailed logistical information regarding each meeting location and related planning activities. The plan includes the meeting schedule, board topics, meeting day agenda, identification of project team members and contact information, meeting venues, hotel information, off-site printers (if additional materials are required), emergency information, staffing matrix, and key talking points.

Appendix B: Outreach: A detailed media plan for overall media outreach efforts (including newspaper ads), as well as geographic-specific efforts for each meeting/community is detailed in **Appendix B, Outreach**. The plan will include components for traditional media, non-traditional media, and third-party publications. Moore will assist with media briefing and message preparation, media access control, and media monitoring of news and video clips. All materials created for the meetings will be reviewed from a reporter's perspective to ensure the correct messages are being conveyed to the media. Moore will compile media clips and relevant stories related to the project for distribution to the interdisciplinary team and discussion, as needed. Moore will also compile a final clip report at the end of the project.



Scoping Materials Review: All materials to be used in the agency and public scoping meetings will be reviewed and approved by the NRCS's Project Manager/designated staff prior to the meetings. NRCS will specify time to review all public participation material as laid out in the Project schedule.

Scoping Report: Comment forms will be prepared for use at the public scoping meetings to record public comments, and notes will be taken on verbal comments provided at the meeting. A Draft and Final Scoping Reports will then be produced summarizing the scoping process and the comments received from both the public and agencies. The Scoping Report will include attendance level, number of comments (written and verbal), issues raised, government (Federal, tribal, state, and local) representation, special interest group representation, comment position, and document/mailling requests.

Following scoping activities, public participation efforts will be evaluated and updated, as appropriate, to meet the needs of the plan as it progresses toward the Draft EA. Public input on alternatives developed throughout the course of planning will be emphasized.

4.2 Draft Plan – EA Meeting

The purpose of the public meeting will be to review content and findings of the Draft Plan-EA and solicit public comment on the Draft Plan-EA.

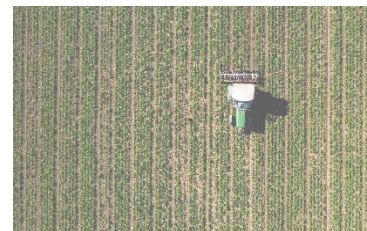
Meeting Location/Dates: It is anticipated that the public Draft Plan-EA meeting will be held at Forman City Hall, 349 Main Street – Forman, North Dakota. The PPP will be updated with the specific date for the public meeting once it is known.

Noticing/Review Protocols: Public notices announcing the Draft Plan-EA meeting will indicate the availability of the Draft Plan-EA and how it can be obtained/viewed and how comments can be submitted.

Recording meetings: Required meetings will be recorded and housed with MOORE and available as a digital copy.

Court Reporter: Because these are **not** formal hearings, a court reporter will not be present at the meeting to record comments.

Comments: Meeting attendees will be informed that a summary of all commenters, comments, and responses may appear in the Final Plan-EA with actual comment letters included as an appendix.



Public and Agency Coordination: The EA section addressing Public and Agency Coordination will summarize the public and agency coordination efforts that have been implemented during the project.

This section will include public and agency participation and scoping; list of contacts; list of agencies, organizations, and persons who received copies of the document; and public comments and responses.

4.3 Final Plan – EA

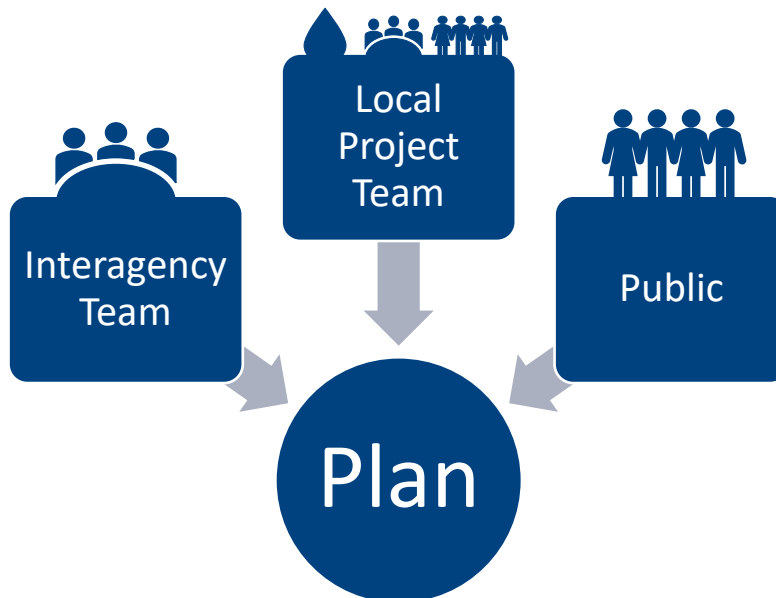
One of the final steps in the NEPA process, will be the formal 45-day public and agency comment period on the Final Plan-EA and draft decision document. An availability notice for the Final Plan-EA and draft decision document will be published in appropriate local media. NRCS will be responsible for preparing and publishing the final decision notice.

5.0 Stakeholder Identification

MOORE, in conjunction with the NRCS and the team, will develop and maintain a mailing list. The following stakeholder groups have been initially identified as being potentially interested in the scope and the development of the EA.

These stakeholders, as well as others gathered throughout the planning, will be invited, and encouraged to participate in the EA process:

Interagency Team	Water Resources District:	Project Team & Local Landowners
Randy Gjestvang – Dept of Water Resources, Christi Fisher – NRCS, Keith Weston RRRA, ND – SHPO, ND – DOT, USACE, USWFS, ND – Department of Health, ND Game and Fish, ND Dept Env Qual., Soil Conservation District, City of Forman, Sargent County, Sargent County Park Board, ND Parks and Rec.	Luke Siemieniowski, Todd Stein, Roger Zetocha, Michael Wyum, Bruce Speich,	Brad Wyum, Collin Sundquist, Dave Lunneborg, Ed Erickson, Jr., Jerry Woytassek, Luke Anderson, Mike Anderson, Randy Bergh, Scott Zirnheld, Terry Erickson, Tom Wyum Sargent County Highway Dept.



6.0 Schedule*

Task 1: INITIATE PLANNING EFFORT				Sept. 2021 - April 2023
DATE	Meeting #	PARTICIPANTS	PRIMARY OBJECTIVES	DELIVERABLES
			Planning Team and Cooperative Agreement between sponsor and NRCS	

Task 2: ORGANIZE, PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES, DEVELOP FEASIBILITY REPORT/PLAN OF WORK				Sept. 2021 - April 2023
DATE	Meeting #	PARTICIPANTS	PRIMARY OBJECTIVES	DELIVERABLES
10/13/2021	1	Joint - Public & Interagency Meeting	Solicit feedback.	
10/13/2021	2	Public Meeting	Publicize and conduct public meeting centered around presenting feasibility report, project scoping.	November 2021 - Feasibility Report Draft
Nov. 2021	3	Project Team	Develop and adopt Purpose & Need, problem areas through iterative project team meetings	December 2021 - Purpose & Need
Dec. 2021	4	Project Team	Develop and adopt Purpose & Need, problem areas through iterative project team meetings	

Task 3: INVENTORY & ANALYZE RESOURCE DATA, EVALUATE PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES				Feb. 2023- Dec. 2023
DATE	Meeting #	PARTICIPANTS	PRIMARY OBJECTIVES	DELIVERABLES
March - Apr. 2022	5	Project Team	Review technical information with Project Team to guide alternatives: Review Draft Environmental Reports	March 2022 - Draft Environmental Report
May – June, 2022	6	Public Meeting	Hold public meeting to present findings of I&A work, start to hone in preliminary alternatives	April 2022 - Findings of Inventory & Analysis
May - Oct. 2022	7	Project Team	Complete iterative meetings with project team to hone in on final alternatives	
Nov. 2022	8	Joint - Inter./Proj.	Conduct interagency meeting and field tour for final alternative sites, solicit comments on feasibility	November 2022 - Tour
Mar. 2023			NRCS review of preliminary alternatives documentation	February 2023 - Preliminary Alternatives Draft

Task 4: DETAILED EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES				May 2023 - May 2024
DATE	Meeting #	PARTICIPANTS	PRIMARY OBJECTIVES	DELIVERABLES

Mar. - Jun. 2023	9	Joint - Inter./Proj.	Hold a series of project team, public, and interagency team meetings to solicit input	December 2023 - Draft
Jul. - Dec. 2023	10	Joint - Inter./Proj.	Hold a series of project team, public, and interagency team meetings to solicit input	
Dec. 2023	11	Project Team	Meet with project team to finalize alts to be included in final Plan/EA	

Task 5: WRITE PLAN/EA				May 2023 - May 2024
DATE	Meeting #	PARTICIPANTS	PRIMARY OBJECTIVES	DELIVERABLES
Dec. - Feb. 2024	12	Project Team	Develop main body of draft Plan/EA including all tables	February 2024 - Draft
Feb. 2024	13	Interagency Team	Send out drafts and conduct interagency and THPO review meeting	
Feb. - Apr. 2024	14	Public	Send out drafts and conduct additional field tours if necessary	

Task 6: FINALIZE WATERSHED PLAN/EA				
DATE	Meeting #	PARTICIPANTS	PRIMARY OBJECTIVES	DELIVERABLES
			Revise the document and seek NRCS approval of EA.	1 PUBLICATION
			Publish EA to federal register, assemble/respond to public comments	

7.0 Public Participation Tools

7.1 Project Team Contact

Project related questions and comments can be directed to the team members listed below for consistency in communication. NRCS will be active in approving the task and objectives as the project moves forward.

Organization	Name/Email	Position	Contact
NRCS	Christi Fisher	Title	(701) 530-2091 office (701) 426-3396 cell Christi.fisher@usda.gov
Moore Engineering Inc.	Margaret Johnson	Watershed & Water Quality Coordinator	(612) 504-0824 cell Margaret.johnson@mooreengineeringinc.com

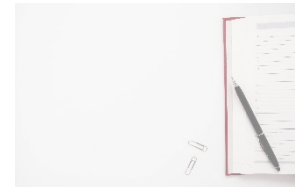
7.2 Meeting and Collateral Materials

Project-related collateral materials, such as fact sheets, postcards, surveys/comment cards, frequently asked questions (FAQs), and other relevant types of communication materials will be developed throughout the duration of the planning process. Collateral materials are intended to be clear, concise sources of important project information such as the project summary, Project overview, NEPA process, technology information, schedule, and contact information.

Distribution: Distribution of collateral materials may include postings on the NRCS's website, through stakeholder outreach (via meetings, mail, e-mail), and through public meetings. Materials will be made available in both electronic and hardcopy formats, as appropriate. Distribution of key informational materials such as the postcard announcement of public meetings/hearings will be circulated to the database of governmental entities and other interested parties, as necessary.

7.3 Comment Management

Per NEPA requirements, all related comments will be stored in a common location and documented within a secure comment database or spreadsheet to ensure efficient, organized, and thorough recordkeeping.



The comment system will be designed to support the NEPA process by: (1) tracking and documenting public and agency comments in all phases of the Plan-EA, (2) managing documents with comments and corresponding responses, and (3) establishing workflow for environmental discipline leads to generate analysis in the Plan-EA document itself.

All substantive comments received during the formal scoping period and public comment period must be responded to and considered before reaching a decision. All substantive comments and responses will be catalogued in a searchable database to ensure that the appropriate consideration of comments will be incorporated into the Plan-EA.

A single point of contact for public comments will be established for the duration of the project and all comments will be documented and routed to the appropriate public participation or team members to ensure up-to-date, timely, and accurate information is being conveyed. A single point of contact for the internal team communication and comments that are provided to the NRCS can be forwarded for entry into the comment database which will be located on the Crooked Creek SharePoint.

Comments will be directed to:

Organization	Name/Email	Position	Contact
NRCS	Christi Fisher	Title	(701) 530-2091 office (701) 426-3396 cell Christi.fisher@usda.gov
Moore Engineering Inc.	Margaret Johnson	Watershed & Water Quality Coordinator	(612) 504-0824 cell Margaret.johnson@mooreengineeringinc.com

Generally, comments from the press will be directed towards Christi Fisher, NRCS. However, MOORE Engineering may also respond to comments if advised to do so by NRCS.

7.4 Website/Print Materials

Up-to-date information regarding the plan and public comment opportunities will be made available on the NRCS's regional and project webpages at:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/nd/technical/engineering/?cid=nrcseprd1624634>
http://sargentnd.com/dept_water.php

The website will provide factual, accurate, and transparent information about the development of the Crooked Creek Watershed. All public materials will feature the URL for the NRCS's project website to drive stakeholders to additional online resources for the plan.

No communication via social media is planned for this project. If a need to communicate via social media is identified based on public interest, this document will be updated to outline the expected platforms.

The media outreach effort will begin in advance of the public scoping meetings. The overall goal of media outreach is to utilize multiple media sources (e.g., print, direct contact, etc.), as well as paid advertisements in newspapers of record, to comprehensively reach out to the affected communities and region with project information and meeting details.

8.0 Issue Identification

8.1 Matters

The following is out of the National Watershed Program Handbook:

All natural, physical, social, and economic aspects that will be affected by the project should be considered.

Required Concerns	Useful in Planning
Air quality: identify environmental air quality standards potentially related to the project.	Current productivity
Coastal zone management areas	Damage costs
Coral reefs	Enterprise input costs
Cultural/historic property	Identify environmental reviews and consultations requirements of the projects
Ecological Critical Areas	Geology
Environmental Justice	Identify environmental assessments or impact statement that are being prepared or will be prepared that are related to the current project

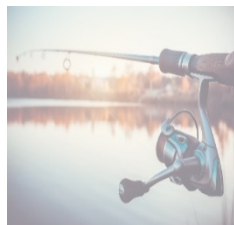
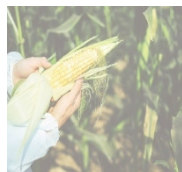
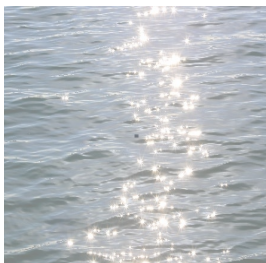
	but not part of the scope of the current project assessment or EIA.
Fish and wildlife resources	Identify environmental review and consultation requirements of the project
Fish community (including essential habitats)	Identify non-NEPA laws related to the project
Identify approved regional water resources plan affected the project area	Income per capita
Invasive species	Land cost
National Parks, Monuments, and Historical sites	Recreational opportunities that exist in the area, especially water based if constructing a multi-purpose reservoir
Natural areas	Land use/crop inventory
Parklands	O&M cost
Prime farmland (Farm land Protection Act)	Plant community
Riparian areas	Population demographics
Scenic areas	
Significant scientific features	Public health and safety
T&E species	Soils inventory
Water bodies (including waters of the U.S.)	Transportation
Wetlands	Water quality
Wild & scenic rivers	Water quantities
Wildlife community (including migratory birds)	Installation Costs
	Costs to SLO, in cash
	Cost to SLO, In kind

8.1 Message Development

Key messages regarding several informational issues and topics should be developed to ensure that team members are speaking with a clear, consistent voice throughout the plan and NEPA process.

Potential topic/issue categories include:

- 8.1.1 History/background
- 8.1.2 Purpose and Need
- 8.1.3 Proposed Action and Alternatives
- 8.1.4 Involved agencies/organizations
- 8.1.5 Potentially impacted resources (species and cultural/aesthetics) overview
- 8.1.6 NEPA and Watershed Planning processes, including goals of the Plan-EA process



Appendix A. Typical Meeting

Typical Public Meeting Agenda

1:00pm:	Full Team Arrival/Setup
2:00pm:	Public Meeting Begins
3:30pm:	Public Meeting Ends
3:35pm:	Debrief & Break Down

Typical Meeting Information and Content

Information	Visuals/Materials	Team Staffing
Welcome Table	Welcome Banner Sign-in Sheets and Fact Sheet	MOORE Staff
Definitions	Presentation	NRCS or MOORE Staff
Plan Overview	Presentation	NRCS
Defining the NEPA and Watershed Planning Processes	Presentation	NRCS or MOORE Staff
Scoping Overview	Presentation	NRCS or MOORE Staff
Map Station	Handout and large printed map	NRCS or MOORE Staff
Comment Tables	Comment Forms	MOORE Staff

Typical Meeting Materials

Materials	Quantity	Responsible Member
Sign-in Sheets	As needed per meeting	MOORE
Project Maps/Exhibits	1 Set per meeting	MOORE
Comment Forms	50 per meeting	MOORE
Project Fact Sheet	50 per meeting	MOORE

Typical Meeting Supplies

Supplies	Quantity	Responsible Member
Laptop Computer	2	MOORE
LCD Projector	1	MOORE

Flash Drive	2	MOORE
Power Strip/Extension Cord	2	MOORE
Supply Box: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pens/Pencils ▪ Notebooks/Extra Paper ▪ Push Pins ▪ Scotch, Masking Tape ▪ Binder Clips ▪ Scissors ▪ Sharpie Markers ▪ First-Aid Kit ▪ Stapler ▪ Post-it Notes 	1	MOORE

Appendix B. Typical Outreach

General Information

This Media Plan is specifically for the Plan-EA scoping meeting to be held in October 2021.

Plan Summary: This plan details overall media outreach efforts to promote and publicize the scoping meetings, including newspaper ads, press releases, key messages and talking points for use by the project team, media coordination, and media coverage monitoring and reporting. The media list includes a mix of print, broadcast, internet, and other media (see “Press Releases” below for details). Additional media contacts may also be provided by the NRCS to ensure broad coverage.

Activities/Roles Overview: For media management in support of the Crooked Creek Watershed Plan-EA, Moore will assist NRCS with press release development and distribution, media briefing and message preparation, media access control, and media monitoring of news and video clips. NRCS will take the lead as spokespersons for all media inquiries and interactions. All materials created for the scoping meetings will be reviewed from a media perspective to ensure the correct messages are being conveyed. Moore will compile media clips and relevant stories related to the project for distribution to, and discussion with, the team, as needed.

All media contact will be coordinated through NRCS unless otherwise directed.

Newspaper Ad Schedule – to be updated once scoping meeting dates are set

Newspaper ads announcing the scoping meetings will be placed in a major regional newspaper and the local papers of record where scoping meetings are scheduled. Ads will be placed at least 14 days prior to each scoping meeting. Affidavit of publication proving each ad ran will be requested from each publication for inclusion in the EA Administrative Record.

Local Papers of Record

Paper of Record	Circulation	Ad Cost	Ad Size (page/inches)
Sargent County Teller	Weekly	\$65.00	2 Columns x 7 inches

Press Releases

Press releases may be developed and distributed to announce the scoping meetings, explain the Plan-EA purpose and need, describe the format and goals of the scoping meetings, and provide meeting details and logistics. The release will provide useful information regarding the public comment period and opportunities, contact information, and references to available information resources.

Key Messages, Talking Points, and FAQs

The following set of key messages, talking points, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will be developed for team use in interacting with the media, as well as stakeholders and the public, when appropriate. These messages are generally limited to general points about the project and process; they do not address more detailed issues of policy, wind energy, or other topics not directly related to the environmental planning and review process. Messages that fall outside this limited scope may be the purview of NRCS or other agencies or entities.

The messages that follow will be reviewed, vetted, and approved by NRCS.

Key Messages/Talking Points

- To be developed once initial data collection is completed

Appendix C. Comments Form

Crooked Creek Watershed Plan – Participant Survey & Comments

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Affiliation: _____

(resident, landowner, agency, commissioner, mayor, etc.)

Circle the most appropriate ranking for each concern listed below. Concerns where the degree of concern is not indicated will be considered a zero value (No Concern or Not Relevant). Please elaborate on concerns in the Other General Comments section.

KEY: 0 = No Concern or Not Relevant 1 = Minimal Concern 2 = Minor Concern
 3 = Moderate Concern 4 = Significant Concern 5 = High Concern

Concerns:	No Concern	High Concern				
• Agricultural Flood Damages,.....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Road-Bridge-Culvert Flood Damages,.....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Water Quality,.....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Crooked Creek Channel Capacity,.....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Wildlife and Habitat,.....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Lack of Recreational Campgrounds,.....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Water Levels of Buffalo Lake and other Sloughs,.....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Fishing Opportunities and Access,.....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Other – additional items listed on back (1).....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Other (2).....0	1	2	3	4	5	
• Other (3).....0	1	2	3	4	5	

Other General Comments: _____

Scoping procedures during the early stages of watershed plan development, will be followed in order to involve affected Federal, State, and local agencies and other interested groups and the general public. Scoping will consider, but is not limited to, the following concerns:

- National Economic Development (NED)
- Air quality
- Coral reefs
- Cultural resources
- Ecologically critical areas
- Endangered and threatened species
- Environmental justice and civil rights
- Essential fish habitat
- Fish and wildlife (including coordination requirements)
- Floodplain management
- Forest resources
- Invasive species
- Land use
- Migratory birds
- Natural areas
- Parklands
- Prime and unique farmland, and farmland of statewide significance
- Public health and safety
- Regional water resource plans (including coastal zone plans)
- Riparian areas
- Scenic beauty
- Scientific resources
- Sole source aquifers
- Social issues
- Soil resources
- Water quality
- Water resources
- Waters of the United States, including special aquatic sites
- Wetlands
- Wild and scenic rivers
- Other concerns identified by SLO, agencies, and the public

Other Possible Concerns:

- Crop Damages/Losses from Flooding
- Overland Flooding
- Road Washouts and Roads Overtopped
- Bridge Washouts & Culverts washed out
- Emergency Flood Protection Measures needed
- Field Erosion
- Stranded Homeowners – when flooding
- Transportation Disruptions – due to flooding
- Safety Concerns – due to flooding
- Streambank Erosion
- Legal Drain Damages
- Delayed Planting - due to flooding
- Water quality – sediment, nitrates, other

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Thank you for your participation and comments.