

**TABLE OF CONTENTS for CONSULTANT  
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE REPORT/PRELIMINARY BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT  
Revised January 2015**

This outline should be used in formatting a Biological Resources Report/Preliminary Biological Assessment (BRR/PBA) for MDT projects. Section 1.0 provides a discussion of the general project area. Beginning with Section 2.0, all analysis and discussion should focus on the project specific study area.

Refer to Activity 182 Biological Resource Report/Preliminary Biological Assessment for specific instruction and tasks required to complete the BRR/PBA.

*Some sections may not apply based on project location, absence of specific resources, and/or scope of work. In such cases, include the section heading and a brief explanation why the section is not relevant to the project. If a section is not relevant, do not include related subsections in the document.*

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Detailed Project Description and Location  
Ecological Setting and General Area Description

- Land cover
- Ecoregion (Woods, Payne, Nesser, et al.)

**2.0 TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES**

**2.1 GENERAL HABITAT/VEGETATION COMMUNITIES**

Methods

- Agency Coordination/Consultation
- Literature/Database Searches
- Field Survey Protocol

Land use/land ownership

Species present, general abundance, distribution, indicator status

Potential Impacts

Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

**2.2 NOXIOUS WEEDS/REGULATED PLANTS**

Methods

- Agency Coordination/Consultation
- Literature/Database Searches
- Field Survey Protocol

Species present, distribution, degree of infestation, status

Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

**2.3 GENERAL WILDLIFE SPECIES**

Methods

- Agency Coordination/Consultation
- Literature/Database Searches

- Field Survey Protocol
- 2.3.1 MAMMALS
  - Species observed/documented, general abundance, distribution, and habitat requirements
  - Animal carcass/crash analysis
  - Potential Impacts
  - Wildlife mitigation needs, feasibility, recommendations
  - Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations
- 2.3.2 BIRDS
  - Species observed/documented, general abundance, distribution, and habitat requirements
  - Potential Impacts
  - Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations
    - Include requirements under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
- 2.3.3 REPTILES and AMPHIBIANS
  - Species observed/documented, general abundance, distribution, and habitat requirements
  - Potential Impacts
  - Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

### **3.0 AQUATIC RESOURCES**

#### **3.1 WATERWAYS (rivers/streams/drainages, irrigation facilities)**

##### Methods

- Agency Coordination/Consultation
- Literature/Database Searches
- Field Survey Protocol

##### Site Description/Stream Morphology

##### Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Listing 303(d)

##### Potential Impacts

##### Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

##### Permitting Required

##### Stream Mitigation Requirements

##### Exemptions

##### Baseline Stream Factors

##### Stream Type

##### Stream Order (Strahler)

##### Stream Status

##### Existing Condition

##### Dominant Impact (Collective Impact)

##### Credit Factors (stream credit opportunities)

##### Riparian Enhancement

##### Stream Channel Restoration

### 3.2 GENERAL AQUATIC SPECIES

#### Methods

- Agency Coordination/Consultation
- Literature/Database Searches
- Field Survey Protocol

Species observed/documented, general abundance, distribution, and habitat requirements

#### Potential Impacts

#### Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

Include Resource Agency recommendations for instream timing restrictions

### 3.3 WETLANDS

#### Methods

- Agency Coordination/Consultation
- Literature/Database Searches
- Field Survey Protocol/Wetland Delineation Methods

Description of Delineated Wetlands

#### Potential Impacts

#### Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

#### Required Permitting

#### Proposed Compensatory Wetland Mitigation Strategy

## 4.0 SPECIES OF CONCERN and SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

#### Methods

- Agency Coordination/Consultation
- Literature/Database Searches
- Field Survey Protocol

### 4.1 PLANTS

Species observed/documented, general abundance, distribution, and habitat requirements

#### Potential Impacts

#### Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

### 4.2 TERRESTRIAL SPECIES

Species observed/documented, general abundance, distribution, and habitat requirements

#### Potential Impacts

#### Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

### 4.3 AQUATIC SPECIES

Species observed/documented, general abundance, distribution, and habitat requirements

#### Potential Impacts

#### Avoidance and Minimization Recommendations

## 5.0 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES PRELIMINARY BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

### Methods

- Agency Coordination/Consultation
- Literature/Database Searches
- Field Survey Protocol

Species status, distribution, habitat requirements, reasons for decline  
Environmental baseline/documented or potential occurrence/behavior in the  
project area

Potential Impact Analysis

Preliminary Determination of Effect

Threatened or Endangered Species and designated critical habitat:

*No Effect or May Affect*

**Make only a *No Effect* or a *May Affect* determination. If a *May Affect* determination is made, do not include *Likely* or *Not Likely to Adversely Affect*. State that: “A final Determination of Effect will be made at a later phase in project development in coordination/consultation with the USFWS.”**

Proposed or Candidate Species:

*Not Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence or*

*Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence*

Potential Cumulative Effects Analysis

Recommended Conservation Measures

## REFERENCES

## LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

## APPENDICES

Including but not limited to:

- Project location map
- Topographic/aerial maps
- Agency coordination letters and phone call logs
- Photographs of relevant sites
- Completed USACOE Wetland Delineation Forms
- Completed MDT MT Wetland Assessment Method Forms
- Wetland delineation maps (plan sheets/aerial photos)
- MTNHP Element Occurrence/Species of Concern Data report
- Species lists (common and scientific names)