Negotiating and Enforcing Programmatic Agreements September 12, 2018

Rollie Wilson, Partner Fredericks Peebles and Morgan LLP



Programmatic Agreements

36 CFR 800.14 (b) Programmatic agreements.

The Council and the agency official may negotiate a programmatic agreement to govern the implementation of a particular program or the resolution of adverse effects from certain complex project situations or multiple undertakings.

Programmatic Agreements

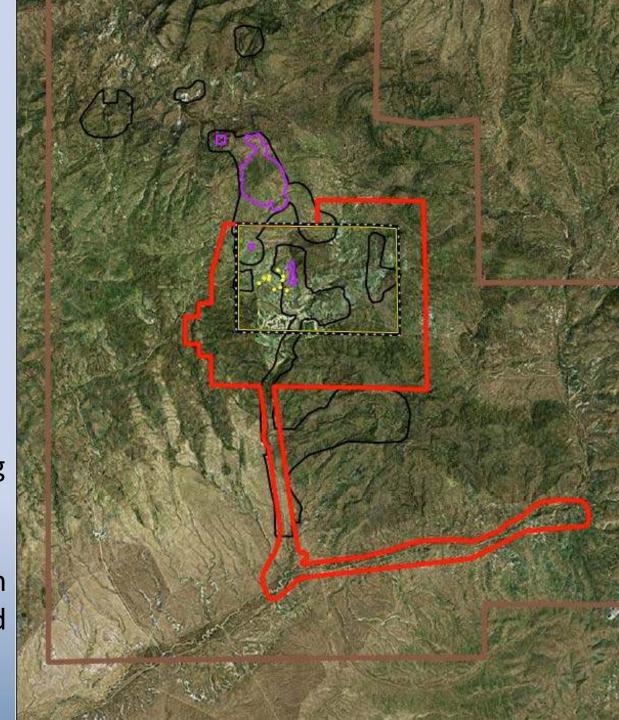
36 CFR 800.14 (b) (1) Use of programmatic agreements.

A programmatic agreement may be used:

- (i) similar and repetitive or are multi-State or regional;
- (ii) cannot be fully determined prior to approval;
- (iii) nonfederal parties are delegated major decision making;
- (iv) routine management activities at Federal installations, facilities, or other land management units; or
- (v) other circumstances warrant a departure section 106.

Programmatic Agreement for Mining and Exploration within the Tosawihi Quarries

- Underground mine
 - Above ground exploration
- Directional core drilling
 - Road construction
- Substation, power line
 & facilities construction
- Negotiated by BLM and Mining Company
 - Without legal review



PA for Mining and Exploration

- Annual Exploration Plan
- Areas of Proposed Surface Disturbance
- Identification
- Evaluation, Effects and Treatment
- Authorization to Proceed

 Also – cultural training, discovery situations, consultation timelines, ongoing tribal consultation, dispute resolution and more.

Negotiating and Enforcing Programmatic Agreements

Issues for Discussion

- 1) Section 106 vs. Programmatic Agreement
- 2) Identification, Evaluation, Effects & Treatment
- 3) What does the Programmatic Agreement Apply To?
- 4) Tribal Monitors
- 5) Dispute Resolution and Enforcement



Section 106 vs. Programmatic Agreement

Programmatic Agreements are Bad

- These days everything is phased implementation.
- Agencies used to enforce the law.
- Tie hands before projects are known.
- Used to obtain early procedural commitments.
- Planning and projects proceed before impacts known.
- Hard to undo, redo and enforce.

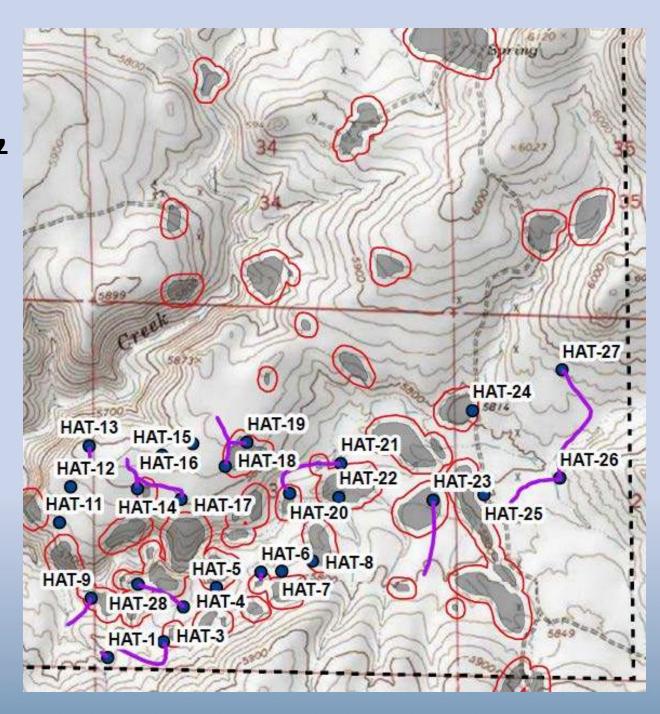
Programmatic Agreements are Good

- Ongoing assessment.
- Force consultation.
- Develop and obtain information.
- Build relationships.
- Opportunities for dispute resolution

Identification, Evaluation, Effects & Treatment

- The heart of the Section 106 process.
- Refer out to the Section 106 Regulations.
- Does PA provide enough time?
- Watch out for streamlining.
- Will 10 year old Class III Surveys be used and did those include tribal consultation?
- Newly designated Historic Properties?
- Use of smaller buffer zones.
- Treatment via Excavation?

Identification, Evaluation, Effects & Treatment



What Does the PA Apply To?

- Definition of Project.
- Definition of Areas of Potential Effect

- Entire project or parts?
- Historic properties designated when Record of Decision issued or ongoing?

Tribal Monitors

- Required by Programmatic Agreement?
- Separate contract mining company or cultural resources contractor?
- Contractors or employees?
- Notice and scheduling.
- Meet up times and locations.
- Time sheets and payment for work.
- Safety equipment.
- Use to gather information.

Dispute Resolution and Enforcement





Dispute Resolution and Enforcement

- PA is a contract between BLM and Mining Company.
- PA is only enforceable by BLM.
- ACHP Dispute Resolution can be helpful.
- Negotiate for a stay of project activities during dispute resolution.
- If BLM will not enforce, go to federal court to get compliance with NHPA and Section 106.
- PA can provide a presumption of compliance.

Negotiating and Enforcing Programmatic Agreements Discussion

Rollie Wilson, Partner
Fredericks Peebles and Morgan LLP
202-340-8232
rwilson@ndnlaw.com

