



Kern River No. 1 Hydroelectric Project

FERC Project No. 1930

Recreation Technical Working Group Meeting

Study Plan Implementation Update
December 5, 2024

Please hold, we will begin shortly. Thank you for your patience and for muting your microphone.

Purpose

Provide an update on the implementation of the REC 1 and REC 2 studies and share the status and next steps for the REC 3 study.

- REC 1 – Facility Condition Assessment
- REC 2 – Facility Use Assessment
- REC 3 – Whitewater Boating

Agenda

- Safety Moment
- Teams Meeting Tips
- Welcome and Introductions
- Recreation Studies – Update
 - REC 1 – Facility Condition Assessment
 - REC 2 – Facility Use Assessment
 - REC 3 – Whitewater Boating

Safety Moment



Meeting Tips

Meeting Tips

- Please remain on mute unless called on
- Turn off camera

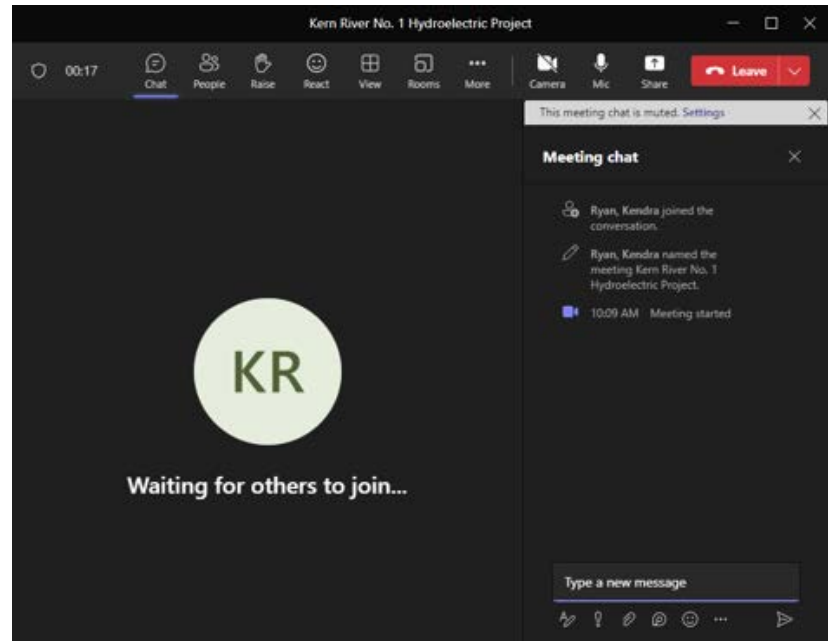


- Consider shutting down other background programs for best meeting audio/viewing quality

Meeting Tips

To submit a question or comment in writing:

- Utilize the chat feature during the presentation to submit questions/comments
- Questions submitted via the chat feature will be answered at the end of each agenda topic, as time allows



Meeting Tips

To submit a question/comment verbally:

- Use the “Raise Hand” feature to indicate you would like to ask a question verbally



- Please wait to be called on and then unmute yourself
 - Introduce yourself (name and affiliation) prior to speaking
- Please stay on topic

Welcome and Introductions

Introductions

Team Member	Contact
Meg Richardson SCE Licensing Manager	mary.m.richardson@sce.com
Martin Ostendorf SCE Senior Manager	martin.ostendorf@sce.com
Patricia Susman Stantec Recreation Technical Lead	patricia.sussman@stantec.com
David Martinez Stantec Whitewater Boating Study Lead	david.martinez@stantec.com
Kelleigh Crowe Stantec Whitewater Boating Study Support	kelleigh.crowe@stantec.com
Julie Smith Stantec Project Director	julie.smith@stantec.com
TWG Attendees	

REC 1

Facility Condition Assessment

REC 1 – Facility Condition Assessment

Recreation facility condition assessment surveys are complete. Data collected included:

- Inventory of features at the day-use facilities
- Overall day-use facility capacity
- Assessment of the condition of facilities and associated features
- Characterization of universal accessibility
- Public safety measures
- Signage and wayfinding
- Site-specific circulation roads and parking areas

REC 2

Facility Use Assessment

REC 2 – Facility Use Assessment


Vehicle Counts and Intercept Surveys

- Initiated in May 2024 at the four day-use facilities and five undeveloped rec sites/river access points
- Surveys are conducted at least four times per month—two weekdays and two weekends—and were also conducted on Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day


Infrared Trail Cameras

- Installed on November 14, 2024, along the Project trails, and will be maintained for 1 year
- USFS-approved installation

REC 2 – Facility Use Assessment

 [Products](#) [Sales](#) [Support](#) [More](#) [DataNet Login](#)

Did you know the TRAFx Vehicle Counter can be easily converted to the TRAFx Infrared Trail Counter? To learn more about TRAFx versatility click [here](#).



Trail Counter



[Brochure](#) [FAQs](#) [Gallery](#) [Manual](#)

TRAFx Infrared Trail Counter

- Counts people on trails, paths, and sidewalks
- Advanced microelectronic design
- High-quality infrared scope
- Compact, unobtrusive, camouflaged design
- **Very long battery life (up to 10 years)**
- Large storage capacity (millions of counts)
- Maximum range: 6m (20ft.)
- Built for outside: -40C (-40F) to +55C (131F)
- Very low operating costs (<\$1/year for batteries)
- Mount on a tree, or put inside a low-cost, lockable electrical box
- Field-proven, Generation 4 design (>10 year history)
- Used from Alaska to Australia, in remote and urban areas

The TRAFx Infrared Trail Counter counts people — walkers, hikers, joggers, inline skaters, horseback riders, cyclists, etc. — on trails, paths and sidewalks. It senses and detects the infrared wavelength that people emit.

Unlike other trail counters, it does not require a receiving unit or reflector to operate. This results in a very compact, unobtrusive design, that reduces risk of vandalism. The TRAFx Infrared Trail Counter also works well in winter conditions on snowshoe, ski and snowmobile trails. It uses three standard "AA size" alkaline batteries and has very long battery life. ([read more...](#))

REC 2 – Facility Use Assessment



REC 2 – Facility Use Assessment

Survey Boxes

- Nine locations for the self-survey boxes:
 - At each day-use area
 - At each of the five Project trailheads
- Awaiting USFS approval for installation
- Data will be collected from these boxes for a 12-month period, starting from the date of installation
- Boxes include signage, maps, and survey forms

REC 3

Whitewater Boating

REC 3 – Whitewater Boating

Three Phased Approach

- Level 1 Desktop Review
 - underway
- Level 2 Limited Reconnaissance
 - if determined to be needed
- Level 3 On-water Boating Assessment
 - if determined to be needed

REC 3 – Whitewater Boating

Level 1 Desktop Review

Desktop literature review complete

- Augments information in the PAD
- Refer to AQ 1 Hydrology study for Project hydrology

Structured Interviews

- Online Structured Interview Questionnaire* survey period complete
 - Solicited information from those with direct experience boating the bypass reach
 - Available Sep 20 to Nov 19 (60 days)
 - Three responses
- One-on-one interviews
 - Participant Selection Process
 - Each of the individuals who completed the online questionnaire
 - Others identified by the whitewater boating study lead, SCE staff, and the TWG
 - Final contact list will be prepared and submitted to the TWG via email for approval in January
 - Interviews to be conducted in early Winter 2025
 - Upon completion of the structured interviews, Level 1 will be complete

*The online survey was not a study element in the KR1 REC 3 TSP – but SCE decided to include it in the Level 1 to ensure consistency with the KR3 TSP process.

REC 3 – Whitewater Boating

Potential Next Steps

- Level 2 Limited Reconnaissance
 - Information obtained in the Level 1 investigation will be used to determine, in consultation with the resource agencies and whitewater boating community, whether to implement Level 2.
 - The Level 2 investigation, if conducted, would include a limited reconnaissance site visit with study participants consisting of agency staff and boaters.
- Level 3 On-water Boating Assessment
 - A Level 3 On-water Boating Assessment will only be conducted if results from the Level 1 Desktop Review and Level 2 Limited Reconnaissance are insufficient to characterize flow preferences over a variety of watercraft types.

Technical Memo Distribution Schedule

Study	Date	Activity
REC 1	February 2025	Distribute draft technical memo to stakeholders
REC 2	February 2025	Distribute Phase 1 draft technical memo to stakeholders based on data collected from April 2024 to October 2024
REC 3	February 2025	Distribute draft interim technical memo to stakeholders

Where to Get Information:

Register online to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to the Kern River No. 1 Hydroelectric Project

- www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm

Access documents filed related to the Kern River No. 1 Hydroelectric Project

- FERC eLibrary:
<https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/elibrary>
- SCE relicensing website:
www.sce.com/KR1