

Executive Order (EO) 13927, Accelerating the Nation’s Economic Recovery from the COVID-19 Emergency by Expediting Infrastructure Investments

USDA Report on Actions

August 14, 2020 Update to July 7, 2020 Report

A. Purpose

Section 9 of Executive Order (E.O.) 13927, Accelerating the Nation’s Economic Recovery from the COVID-19 Emergency by Expediting Infrastructure Investments and Other Activities, 85 Fed. Reg. 35,165 (Jun. 4, 2020), requires all federal agencies within 30 days, to:

1. Review all statutes, regulations, and guidance that may provide for emergency or expedited treatment of infrastructure, energy, environmental, or natural resource-related projects or project reviews;
2. Identify planned or potential actions that may be subject to such emergency or expedited procedures; and
3. Provide a summary report listing such actions to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, and the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality.

The Executive Order also requires agencies to provide updates at least every 30 days for the duration of the national emergency which may be combined, as appropriate, with any other reports required by this order.

This report updates USDA Report on Actions dated 7 July, 2020 by providing the specific planned and potential project actions in section B.

B. USDA Major Infrastructure Project List subject to FAST41 and OFD

As of Date: 13 August 2020

Type	Project	Role	Lead Dept	USDA Mode	Sector	Planned and potential actions within			Identified Resource Constraints
						90 days	180 days	365 days	
FAST 41	Cardinal-Hickory Creek 345kV Transmission Line connecting northeast Iowa and south-central Wisconsin	Lead	USDA	RD	Elec Trans	All permitting completed. DOI Right of Way Authorization. USACE Authorization	Project permitting complete	Project permitting complete	None
OFD	Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Idaho; Lower Valley Energy Crow Creek Pipeline Project connecting Montpelier, ID and Afton WY	Lead	USDA	USFS	Pipeline	None – Record of Decision was issued on 11/01/19	Issuance of Special Use Permit by 4/12/21	Project permitting complete	Currently paused while in litigation. OGC resources identified and resolution expected. 1 st project completed under OFD under 2 year goal.
OFD	McClellanville 115kV Transmission Line - Berkeley, Charleston and Georgetown Counties, SC.	Lead	RD	USFS	Elec Trans	Expediting selected alternative by 8/25/20 – ESA consultation by	Final EIS by 2/19/21 - Section 106 by 2/26/21	Record of Decision by 6/25/21	Selection of preferred alternative in dispute resolution.

						8/17/20			
Type	Project	Role	Lead Dept	USDA Mode	Sector	Planned and potential actions within			Identified Resource Constraints
						90 days	180 days	365 days	
FAST 41	Mountain Valley Pipeline - crossing Jefferson NF in VA	Coop	FERC	USFS	Pipeline	Draft SEIS by Fall 2020	Final SEIS, ROD by end of year 2020	None	None – Special team comprised to complete SEIS
OFD	Nebraska Department of Transportation U.S. Highway 275 West Point to Scribner Project	Coop	USACE	FPAC	Transp	Easement determination completed	NRCS final determination of easement by 1/29/21	None	None
FAST 41	Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion	Coop	USACE	FPAC	Water Res	All NRCS scoping activities complete	None	None – DEIS in 11/9/22	None
FAST 41	Boardman OR to Hemingway ID Transmission Line - 500kV	Coop	USDA	USFS	Elec Trans	None	None	None	USDA potions completed – awaiting DOD notice to proceed
OFD	Jordon Cove Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline - crossing Freemont-Winema, Rogue River-Siskiyou, Umpqua NFs in OR	Coop	FERC	USFS	Pipeline	Plan Amendment decision to be made consistent with DOI supplemental analysis	SUP issued by end of 2020	All USDA actions completed	DOI ROW auth and USACE 408 both paused. Cannot move USDA actions forward.

FAST 41	Plains Pipeline - replacing existing pipeline crossing Los Padres NF in CA	Coop	DOI	USFS	Pipeline	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Paused by Proponent to develop Plan of Development
Type	Project	Role	Lead Dept	USDA Mode	Sector	Planned and potential actions within			Identified Resource Constraints
						90 days	180 days	365 days	
OFD	Lake Elsinore Advanced Pump Storage (LEAPS) - constructing new reservoir and transmission lines on Cleveland NF in CA	Coop	FERC	USFS	Water Res	Timetable being developed by 31 Aug 2020	Ready for Environmental Review by December 2020	DEIS completed by July 2021	Lack of capacity to complete Forest level work – executing agreement with FPISC for additional resources
OFD	Boise BOR - Raise Anderson Ranch Dam by 10 feet on Boise NF in ID to increase reservoir capacity	Coop	DOI	USFS	Water Res	Draft EIS by End of August 2020	Final EIS by end of February 2021	Final ROD by end of May 2021 - Issuance of Special Use Permit by July 2021	None
FAST 41	MagLev - high speed rail between Washington DC and Baltimore, MD with alternative to utilize USDA lands in Beltsville, MD for train maintenance facility	Coop	DOT	ARS	Transp	Draft EIS by Mid September 2020	Final EIS by February 2021	Final Record of Decision by May 2021	Likely in dispute resolution on non-concurrence with preferred alternative brought forward in DEIS if BARC facility land is selected by lead agency – Resolution will need to be

HPIP	Stibnite Gold mine – Midas Gold in ID. Caribou Targhee NF - Hardrock mine and legacy clean up and supporting infrastructure.	Lead	USDA	USFS	Mining	Timeline updated and added to permitting dashboard by 25 Aug 2020.	TBD by 25 Aug 2020	TBD by 25 Aug 2020	New project designated as High Priority Infrastructure Project by CEQ to follow OFD principles.
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