

Environmental Studies

Agency coordination and studies are underway, including the following resources evaluated in detail and potential effects:

Scenery Resources:

- Evaluation of Forest Plan compliance
- Identification of Key Observation Points
- Visibility analysis
- Photo simulations

Recreation:

- Review of trailheads/trail use areas
- Shooting range
- Scenic byway/scenic viewing and driving for pleasure

Wildfire risk and hazards; Forestry

- Vegetation management requirements
- Surrounding fire risk from transmission line
- Surrounding fire threats to transmission line, including shooting range
- Treatment and timing of clearing

Vegetation, Wetlands and Plants

- Mapping and identification of sensitive resources including rare plants, wetlands and riparian areas
- Mapping and identification of noxious weeds and potential Best Management Practices to prevent spread
- Minimization and avoidance of road construction and trenching in creeks/drainages



Environmental Studies (Continued)

Wildlife

- Raptors and migratory birds (nests/habitat)
- Canada lynx habitat

Soils, Geology, Paleontology and Wastes

- Mine waste at Gilman
- Lead contamination at shooting range
- Potential soil and geologic hazards
- Fossil-bearing formations

Socioeconomics and Environmental justice

- Minority and low income communities
- Benefits of fiberoptic and redundancy and risks of outage impacts

Historic and Cultural Resources

- Avoidance and minimization of impacts to eligible resources

Range/Grazing: notify allottees

Access and Transportation: minimal new roads; mostly helicopter construction

Hydrology/Aquatics

- Potential minimization using helicopter construction to reduce roads
- Use overhead to avoid trenching perennial waters

