

RESOURCE PROJECT PLAN (RPP) AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS (EIA) GUIDELINES

The Blue Ridge Scout Reservation Conservation Plan requires the preparation of a Resource Project Plan (RPP) and Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA) for any project that will enhance the health, safety, or value of the Reservation's natural or cultural resources.

The purpose is to assure projects are compatible with the BRSR Conservation Plan and BRMC Policy while serving as an educational tool for scouts (and others) to learn and better understand the mechanics of planning and implementing such projects. Additionally, properly documenting conservation projects will allow the conservation committee and council staff to properly recognize those volunteering their time and resources on the Reservation.

GUIDELINES FOR A RESOURCE PROJECT PLAN

The RPP should address the following:

1. Identification and location of resource need or problems.
2. Recommended project to deal with the need or problem.
3. Resources needed (including any needed from the BRSR).
4. Personnel to be used to complete the project.
5. Results of the EIA.
6. Contact information for the supervisor.

The RPP should be prepared and submitted in writing to the BRMC liaison designated to review the RPP (call the BRSR Program Director or Property Superintendent if you do not know who to contact). Following review and approval, the RPP will be returned to the project supervisor for implementation. Upon completion, the project supervisor should notify the BRMC liaison so appropriate recognition may be provided. Questions or other matters relating to the project should be addressed to the council liaison.

GUIDELINES FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS (EIA)

The EIA is primarily an educational tool to assure scouts recognize the potential environmental impacts that may result from the proposed project. The EIA may be either formal or informal depending upon the type and level of the environmental impact anticipated from the project.

INFORMAL EIA

An informal EIA is used when “minor” projects are considered to present only minimal negative impacts on the environment and where significant positive impact is anticipated. The informal EIA consists of a written statement (a paragraph or two) acknowledging a review of the project to ascertain potential environmental impacts and a statement of the positive results anticipated from the project.

A knowledgeable adult or junior leader who is providing the leadership for the project may accomplish the informal EIA. The written EIA should be attached to the project’s resource project plan.

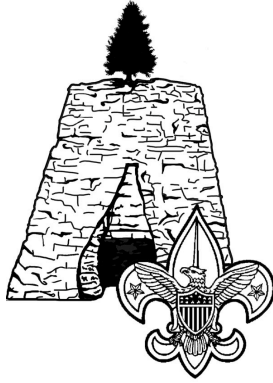
FORMAL EIA

A formal EIA is required whenever a project is felt to present significant negative impacts on the environment or when an informal EIA tends to show more negative impact than was originally anticipated.

The formal EIA consists of an analysis matrix and a statement of findings. The matrix is prepared to show:

1. The name of the project
2. A description of the project
3. Who will complete the project
4. Who prepared the EIA
5. The date of the EIA
6. A matrix showing interaction blocks for resources and project actions
7. The type of impact on the resources anticipated during the construction/activity phase and long term impacts
8. An analysis of the impacts
9. A statement regarding the mitigation of any negative impacts anticipated

Impacts will be identified as either + (positive) or – (negative). A “0” is used to denote no anticipated impact. Initial impacts anticipated during project implementation will be placed in the upper left of the interaction box while anticipated long term impacts will be placed in the lower right corner. (See attached example).



BLUE RIDGE SCOUT RESERVATION

RESOURCE PROJECT PLAN (RPP)

DATE: _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Identify what you propose to “fix” or improve, its location, and what you propose to do):

RESOURCES NEEDED:

Resources we will provide:

Resources the BRSR will provide:

SCHEDULE: (When do you propose to do the project and finish it):

PERSONNEL: (Who will do the work):

EIA RESULTS:

Negative impacts:

Positive impacts:

NOTE: Please attach the written EIA.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

COUNCIL LIAISON APPROVAL:

Name: _____ Position: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Comments:

PROJECT COMPLETED: _____

Date

RECOGNITION PROVIDED:

Figure E-3.1: Sample EIA

EIA–Trail crossing of Big Mack’s Creek

Project: Stabilize banks of BMC and placement of stepping stones on creek bottom.

Project to be completed by: OA

EIA prepared by: R.J. Snarf **Date:** 2/15/07

Resource	Project Actions		Comments
	Rock Ledge on Creek Banks	Stepping Stones in Creek	
Vegetation	0/0	0/0	No discernible impact
Wildlife	0/0	0/+	No discernible impact initially, fish and aquatic life improved after
Soils	-/+	-/+	Soil erosion at site during construction. Soil stabilization after construction
Water	-/+	-/+	Water quality deterioration during construction. Water quality improved after construction
Air	0/0	0/0	No discernible impact
<p>Analysis: While there will be initial negative impact on the soils and water quality, the long term impact will be positive for soils, water quality and wildlife.</p>			
<p>Mitigation of Negative Impacts: Care shall be exercised to minimize initial impact on the soils and water quality during construction.</p>			

Figure E-3.1

Potential Resource Components and Project Activities for the EIA Matrix	
A. Resource Components	
Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface Soils • Soil Quality • Soil Erodibility • Land Form • Unique Soil Resources • Unique Physical Feature
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface Water • Subsurface Water • Water Quality • Water Temperature
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality (particulates , gases) • Micro/Macro Climate • Air Temperature
Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trees • Shrubs • Herbaceous Plants • Aquatic Plants • Rare/Endangered Plants
Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Animals • Birds • Fish and Shellfish • Benthic Organisms • Insects/arthropods • Microfauna • Rare/Endangered Species
Aesthetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic Views (immediate, long range) • Wilderness/Backcountry Qualities • Unique Landforms or Physical Features • Rare/Endangered Species
Cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic • Archeological
B. Project Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of exotic plants or animals • Modification of habitat • Alteration of ground cover • Alteration of drainage • Modification of stream flow or control • Burning of site or debris • Surface alteration or paving • Excessive noise generation • Landscaping activities • Road/trail construction • Structure construction activities • Cut and fill activities • Erosion control activities • Terracing • Reforestation activities • Wildlife habitat modification • Wildlife stocking activities • Landscaping activities • Fertilization • Chemical pest control • Weed control 	