

# Lee Vining Hydroelectric Project

## FERC No. 1388

Welcome! Using the chat,  
please write your name,  
organization and your  
favorite winter activity

# RECREATION AND LAND USE RESOURCES

## Technical Working Group Meeting

# Safety Moment



# Lee Vining Relicensing TWG Team

## SCE Team

**Matthew Woodhall**  
Project Manager

**Martin Ostendorf**  
Senior Manager

**Seth Carr**  
Operations Manager

## Consultant Team

**Finlay Anderson**  
Project Manager

**Shannon Luoma**  
Deputy PM

**Kelly Larimer**  
Project Director

**Carissa Shoemaker**  
TWG Coordinator

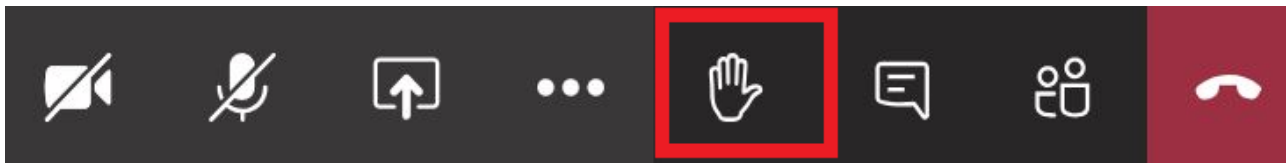
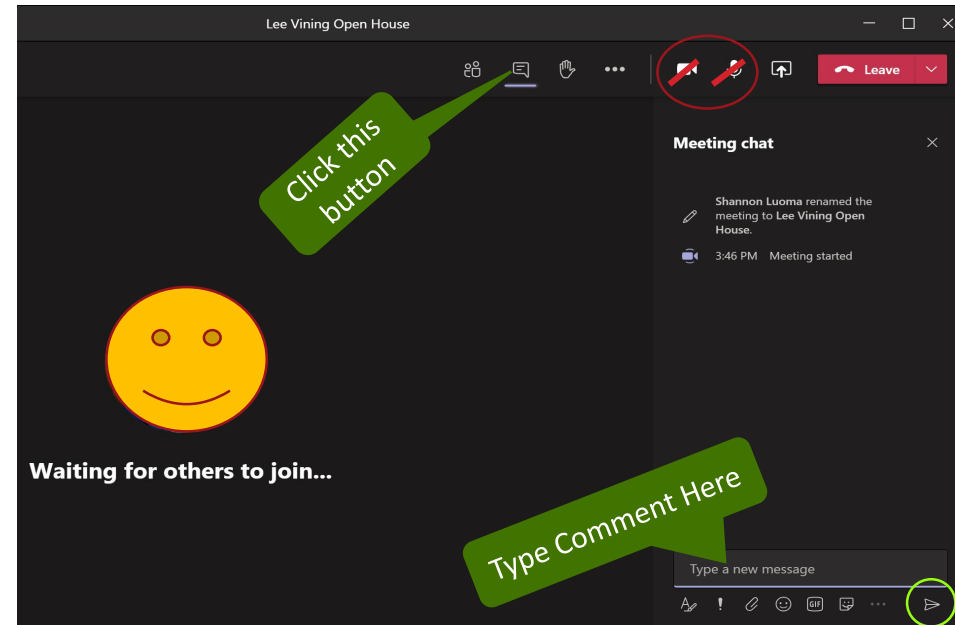
**Matt Harper**  
Recreation/ Land Use  
TWG Lead

# Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
  - Safety Moment
  - Review of January TWG notes
  - Meeting goals
- Discussion of Study Plan Requests (from homework)
  - Objectives
  - Rationale, Nexus
  - Study Area
  - Methods
- Schedule, Next Steps, Action Items
  - Next TWG date(s)
  - Study Plan Titles/Outlines
  - Other action items
- Final Questions

# Meeting Tips and Guidelines

- Please wait to be called on and then unmute your line
  - Introduce yourself (name and affiliation) prior to speaking
- Listen and respect each other
- Stay on topic
- Ask a question by typing it into the chat box during the presentation or by using the raise your hand feature



# Review of January TWG notes

- Bringing developed rec sites up to current standards (accessibility, sustainability, and resource protection)
- Determine which are project-related / project-induced sites
- Trails – history of trails and their impacts on sensitive species
- Highway pullout opportunities
- Fishing / creel survey request
- Ice climbing access north of penstock
- Special Use Permits (SUPs)

# Review of January TWG action items

- The relicensing team circulated updated “homework” (Bishop Creek study applicability), current project boundary .kmz, and USFS trails data
- The current project FERC license, relevant amending orders, and the Environmental Assessment have been uploaded to the project website
- Access Fund (Katie Goodwin) provided ice climbing access information
- The relicensing team will capture the concerns of impacts from recreation on archaeological, cultural, and tribal sites – we will find the best place to address this in the PAD
- Highway pullout management is being assessed by the relicensing team
- Trail/access history and effects on sensitive species is being assessed by the relicensing team

# TWG Materials Provided via Email and Website

- Email
  - Agenda and Homework
  - FERC Scoping Overview Memo
  - Draft Jan 2021 TWG Meeting Notes
- Website
  - TWG Charter Document
  - Select parts of PAD
  - PAD References List
  - Comprehensive Management Plans List
  - FERC NEPA overview
  - FERC Study Criteria



# Stakeholder “Homework”: Discussion of Resource Management Objectives

- Desired Future Conditions
- Data Gaps
- Potential Study Requests
  - Study Area
  - Project Nexus
  - Goals and Objectives

# Potential Studies for Other Resource Areas

- Aquatics
  - Instream Habitat Assessment
  - Operations model
  - Fish distribution baseline study (creek)
  - Fish distribution baseline study (reservoirs)
  - Sediment and geomorphology
  - *Didymo* and other aquatic invasive species
  - Water quality assessment

# Potential Studies for Other Resource Areas (continued)

- Terrestrial and Botanical
  - General Wildlife and Rare, Threatened, and Endangered (RTE) Species
  - Botanical (RTE and invasive)
  - Yosemite Toad
  - Focal Riparian Birds
  - Invasive plants sub-unit on *Didymo* (to be covered in Aquatics TWG)
  - Assessment of Riparian Community
- Cultural and Tribal
  - Cultural study
  - Tribal study

# Recreation and Land Use Resources: Potential Studies

## Recreation Use and Needs Evaluation

- Objectives
  - Determine which recreation sites are considered project-induced
  - Characterize existing recreational use and needs
  - Evaluate adequacy of existing recreation opportunities to meet current needs
  - Estimate future project-related recreational demand and needs, including the need for additional development
- Rationale/Nexus
  - Inyo National Forest owns and operates the recreation sites, but the sites are in or adjacent to the Project boundary
  - Federal Power Act Section 4(e) conditioning authority
  - The extent of use and needs within and adjacent to the project boundary will need to be assessed to adequately meet the demand
- Study Area
  - Project-induced recreation and fishing sites

# Recreation and Land Use Resources: Potential Studies

## Condition Assessment of Existing Recreation Facilities

- Objectives
  - Determine which recreation sites are considered project-induced
  - Facility condition assessment and inventory at existing Project-related recreation facilities
  - Assess the condition and potential for universal accessibility
  - Assess the condition of access roads and parking areas
- Rationale/Nexus
  - Inyo National Forest owns and operates the recreation sites, but the sites are in or adjacent to the Project boundary
  - Federal Power Act Section 4(e) conditioning authority
  - Project-required sites needs to be determined and the condition and adequacy of those sites assessed to aid in PM&E discussions
- Study Area
  - All project-induced developed recreation sites

# Recreation and Land Use Resources: Potential Studies

## Requested by Stakeholders

- Creel census
- Trail history, effects on arch. sites, sensitive species, and overlap with tribal trails
  - Noted crossover with Cultural/Tribal and Terrestrial Resources TWGs

*[Open Study Requests document(s) received for details]*

# Recreation and Land Use Resources

- Questions
- Do you have information you want to share with us?
- Proposed next TWG date: April 1

# RELICENSING SCHEDULE OVERVIEW



# Relicensing Process Schedule

(subject to change depending on relicensing process)

Date	Activity
August 2, 2021	SCE Files Notice of Intent/Pre-Application Document (NOI/PAD)
September 2021	FERC initiates Tribal consultation
September – October 2021	<i>If ILP:</i> FERC issues Notice of Commencement and Scoping Document 1 (SD1) and hosts scoping meeting/site visit <i>If TLP:</i> FERC approves use of TLP
October 2021	Public Meeting to discuss PAD and NOI
October/November 2021	Stakeholders file comments on NOI/PAD and request studies
November 13, 2021	SCE files proposed Study Plans
January 2022	SCE hosts Study Plan Meeting
April 2022	Revise Study Plans as appropriate
Spring/Summer 2022-2023	Conduct field studies
September 3, 2024	SCE Files Draft License Application
January 31, 2025	SCE Files Final License Application

# Tentative TWG Meeting Schedule

Date		Activity
Week of March 29, 2021	Monday, Mar 29	Aquatic Resources TWG
	Wednesday AM, Mar 31	Terrestrial and Botanical TWG
	Wednesday PM, Mar 31	Cultural and Tribal TWG
	<b>Thursday, Apr 1</b>	<b>Recreation and Land Use TWG</b>

# How to Stay Involved

- Check the Project website for updates/news at [www.sce.com/leevining](http://www.sce.com/leevining)
- Sign-up to receive Project-related emails through the Contact Registration Form/Project Questionnaire on the Project website
- Participate in an ongoing TWG
- Sign up for FERC's for e-subscription (docket number "P-1388") at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)
- Email Carissa Shoemaker with questions [carissa.shoemaker@erm.com](mailto:carissa.shoemaker@erm.com)



Thank you!