



This update is part of an ongoing effort to inform the public about the progress made in developing the CRSO EIS, which will provide documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act for long-term system operations, maintenance and configuration of the 14 federal dam and reservoir projects in Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. The CRSO EIS is undertaken by the co-lead agencies: the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation and the Bonneville Power Administration.

Please visit the CRSO EIS web site at [www.crso.info](http://www.crso.info) for project information and prior project newsletters.



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# Columbia River System Operations Environmental Impact Statement Fact Sheet

In October 2018, a [memorandum from the President](#) that addressed streamlining federal agency decision-making and coordination on several water projects in the west, provided that the CRSO EIS co-lead agencies streamline federal agency review and coordination and develop a schedule to complete the EIS by 2020, a year ahead of the originally scheduled completion date. In response to this memorandum, the co-lead agencies submitted a coordinated, revised schedule to the [Council on Environmental Quality \(CEQ\)](#) for consideration in December 2018. CEQ oversees federal compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The co-lead agencies recently received confirmation from CEQ of a revised schedule that allows the co-lead agencies to produce an EIS that complies with NEPA while meeting the intent of the memorandum. The agencies now are revising project details in order to reach the new completion date.

The co-lead agencies are confident that progress will continue with this revised schedule toward the identification of a long-term strategy for the operation, maintenance and configuration of the Columbia River System that meets the projects' multiple congressionally authorized purposes and complies with all applicable laws, including NEPA and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Please refer to the updated "We Are Here" graphic for the revised dates for release of the draft EIS, the final EIS and signing of the Records of Decisions. The co-lead agencies, with NOAA Fisheries and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are evaluating the effect of this revised schedule on integration of ongoing and concurrent ESA activities and the consultation associated with the EIS.

## Agencies' commitment continues

The co-lead agencies remain committed to developing and evaluating alternatives that best balance the multiple purposes of these 14 projects. Contributions from tribes, the public and federal and state agencies will continue to inform an open, transparent and collaborative NEPA process to meet the revised completion schedule. Information on EIS development and NEPA topics will be posted to the [CRSO EIS web site](#).

The Presidential Memorandum on Promoting the Reliable Supply and Delivery of Water in the West, issued on October 19, 2018, is available at [www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-memorandum-promoting-reliable-supply-delivery-water-west](http://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-memorandum-promoting-reliable-supply-delivery-water-west).

## CRSO EIS

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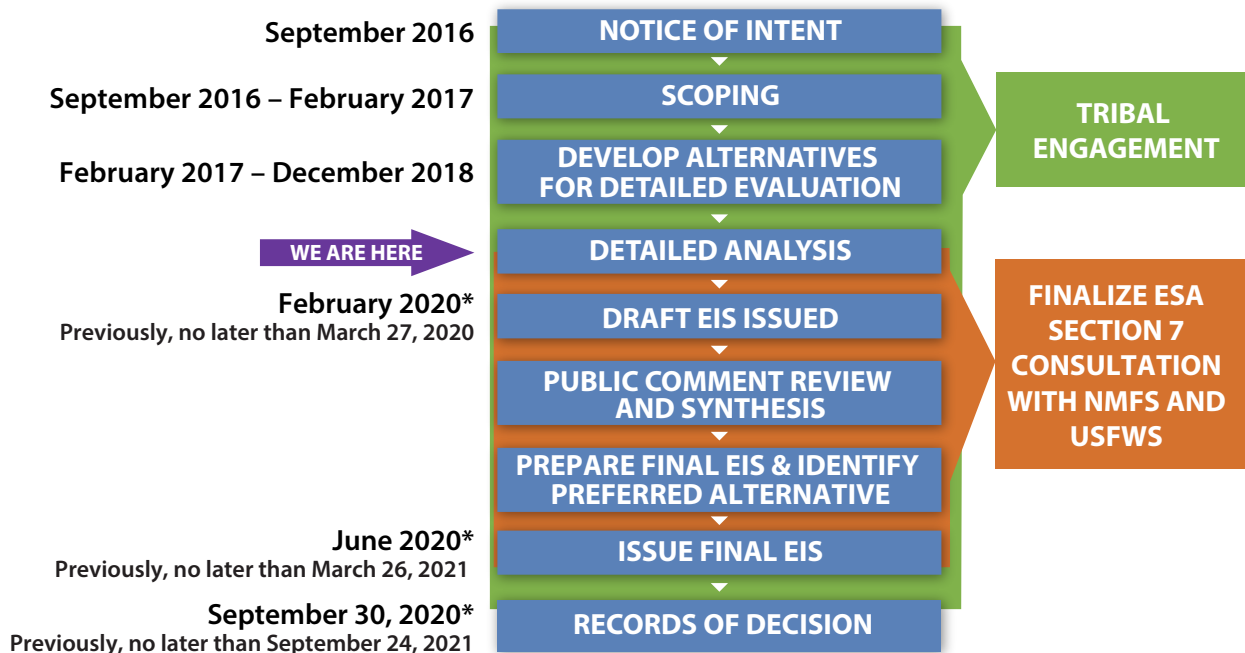
Website: [www.crso.info](http://www.crso.info)

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To add your name to the CRSO EIS mailing list, send your contact information to [info@crso.info](mailto:info@crso.info) or leave a message at 800-290-5033.

## Columbia River System Operations EIS Process



\*Dates reflect commitments to the Council on Environmental Quality based on Oct. 2018 Presidential Memorandum