

Quarterly Agency Performance Report

Permitting Council—Executive Director Fiscal Q1 2025 (October-December 2024)

March 31, 2025

Where projects see progress



Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	
Quarterly Agency Performance Report Fiscal Q1	
October-December 2024	1
1. Summary of Federal Agency Performance	1
2. Background	3
3. FAST-41 Covered Project Portfolio	4
4. Agency Compliance with the Provisions of FAST-41	9
4.1. Initiation and Establishment of a Coordinated Project Plan	9
4.2. Coordinated Project Plan Quarterly Updates	9
4.3. Agency Modification of Permitting Timetables	9
4.4. Agency Conformance with Permitting Timetables	13
4.5. Agency Posting of Required Information	15
5. Acting Executive Director Technical Assistance	16
Appendix. Statutory Requirements	17
1. Initiation and Establishment of a Coordinated Project Plan	17
2. Coordinated Project Plan Quarterly Updates	18
3. Agency Modification of Permitting Timetables	18
4. Agency Conformance with Permitting Timetables	18
5. Agency Posting of Required Information	19



i

Acknowledgments

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-7(a)(2), the Acting Executive Director of the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (Permitting Council) submits to Congress this quarterly report evaluating agency compliance with the provisions of Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41). This report provides a description of the implementation and adherence of each agency to the coordinated project plan and permitting timetable requirements under 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c) during the first quarter of fiscal year 2025.

The Permitting Council is a Federal agency charged with improving the transparency and predictability of the Federal environmental review and authorization process for certain critical infrastructure projects. The Permitting Council comprises the Executive Director, who serves as the Permitting Council Chair, and 15 additional members, including the Deputy Secretary (or equivalent) from 13 Federal agencies, the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.



Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council



Advisory Council on Historic Preservation



Department of Energy



Office of Management and Budget



Department of Agriculture

Council on

Environmental Quality

Department of Transportation



Department of the Army



Department of Homeland Security



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission



Department of Commerce



Department of Housing and Urban Development



Nuclear Regulatory Commission



Department of Defense



Department of the Interior



Environmental Protection Agency



Quarterly Agency Performance Report

Fiscal Q1 October-December 2024

1. Summary of Federal Agency Performance

The following summarizes the FAST-41 covered project¹ portfolio and Federal agency performance and compliance with FAST-41 requirements for the first quarter of fiscal year 2025 (fiscal Q1 2025):

- During this period, there were 32 projects undergoing active Federal review, for which agencies were tracking 586 Federal agency intermediate and final completion dates (a.k.a., "milestones") on the Federal Permitting Dashboard (Dashboard).²
- Three (3) projects were completed on the Dashboard because the last outstanding federal environmental review or authorization was completed during this quarter: <u>Alaska FiberOptic Project Segment 1</u>, <u>Atlantic Shores South</u>, and <u>Boardman to</u> <u>Hemingway Transmission Line</u>. Nine new projects joined the portfolio during fiscal QI 2025.
- Agencies reviewed and satisfied the requirements for updating coordinated project plans (CPPs) for all applicable projects on the Dashboard.
- Agencies modified a total of 49 dates across 12 projects in compliance with FAST-41 requirements.³
- Agencies submitted 2 requests to the Executive Director to authorize date modifications that would necessitate extensions of final completion dates by more than 30 days after the originally-established final completion date. The Executive Director granted both requests.

³ The 49 date modifications include 44 completion dates (see Table 2 for more information) and 5 alternative completion dates (see Table 7 for more information). Agencies did not modify any dates for the other 20 projects undergoing active review during fiscal Q1 2025.



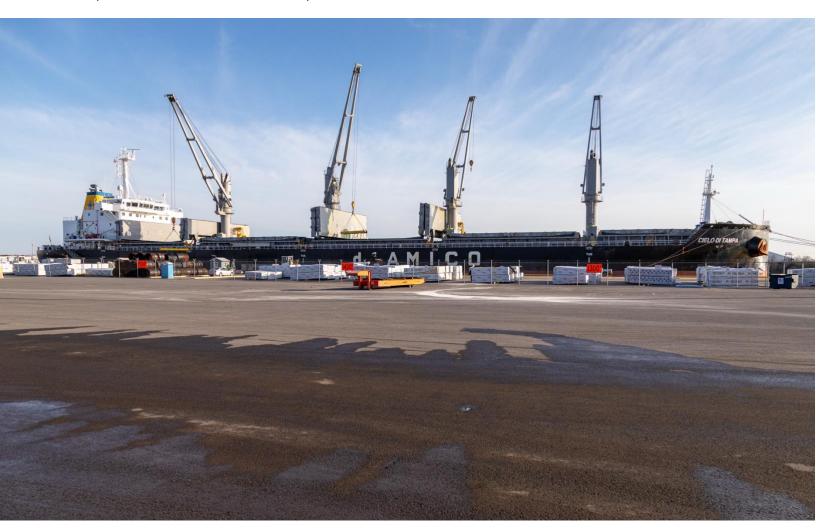
1

¹ Projects in this report refer to FAST-41 covered projects, unless otherwise specified.

² The Dashboard is currently hosted and maintained by the Department of Transportation (DOT) and is used as a transparency and compliance tool for many types of infrastructure projects in which the Federal government is involved. A small percentage of the projects on the Dashboard are FAST-41 covered projects. The Dashboard is accessible at https://www.permits.performance.gov/projects.

- There were 18 milestones scheduled to be completed across 10 projects during this quarter.⁴ The following provides a breakdown of these milestones:
 - Agencies completed 16 of the 18 milestones.
 - Agencies moved 2 of the 18 milestones beyond the end of the quarter. In both of these instances, agencies modified the completion dates in a timely manner.
- For all projects, agencies satisfied the requirements to post certain project information to the Permitting Dashboard.

The statutory FAST-41 requirements are explained in detail in the Appendix of this report, and detailed information on agency compliance with each of these requirements is provided in Section 4 of this report.



⁴ The 18 milestones include 10 completion dates (see Table 5 for more information) and 8 alternative completion dates (see Table 6 for more information). The remaining 22 projects did not have any milestones anticipated during fiscal Q1 2025.



2. Background

FAST-41 requires the Executive Director to submit a Quarterly Agency Performance Report to Congress, which:

evaluat[es] agency compliance with the provisions of [FAST-41], [and] which shall include a description of the implementation and adherence of each agency to the coordinated project plan and permitting timetable requirements under [42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)].

Accordingly, this Quarterly Agency Performance Report, which covers fiscal Q1 2025, evaluates agency implementation of FAST-41 requirements. The report also discusses technical assistance that the Acting Executive Director provides to agencies to support that implementation.

To assess compliance for this report, the Permitting Council reviewed CPPs. Under FAST-41, lead agencies must complete a CPP within 60 days of adding a project to the Permitting Dashboard. Among other things, a CPP coordinates agency participation in, and completion of, the Federal environmental reviews and authorizations required for a project. The project permitting timetable, which is posted and managed on the Dashboard, is a key component of a CPP and includes intermediate and final completion dates⁵ for agency actions on environmental reviews or authorizations that are required for the project. The requirements for a CPP and a permitting timetable are discussed in greater detail in the Appendix of this report.

This report provides an overview of:

- The project portfolio;
- Agency implementation of the FAST-41 initiation process, including the requirements for CPPs;
- Agency completion of required CPP quarterly updates;
- > Agency management of permitting timetables;
- > Agency conformance with permitting timetables; and
- > Agency postings of required information to the Dashboard.

⁵ The Federal Permitting Dashboard refers to these intermediate and final completion dates as "milestones."



3. FAST-41 Covered Project Portfolio

In fiscal QI 2025, the project portfolio contained 32 projects undergoing active Federal environmental review and authorization and 3 projects for which all Federal environmental reviews and authorizations were paused.⁶ Projects undergoing active review are organized by sector in Table 1.

The Department of the Interior (DOI) was lead agency for 22 projects; the Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration (DOC-NTIA) was lead agency for 3 projects; the Department of the Army, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and the Department of Energy (DOE) were each the lead agency for 2 projects; and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) was the lead agency for 1 project.

Project	Lead or Facilitating Agency
Renewable or Conventional Energy Production (RCE)	
Atlantic Shores North (RCEI)	DOI-BOEM
Atlantic Shores South (RCE2)	DOI-BOEM
Attentive Energy Two Offshore Wind Project (RCE3)	DOI-BOEM
Bay State Wind Project (RCE4)	DOI-BOEM
Bluepoint Wind 1 (RCE5)	DOI-BOEM
Bonanza Solar Project (RCE6)	DOI-BLM
Kitty Hawk North Wind Project (RCE7)	DOI-BOEM
Kitty Hawk South Offshore Wind Project (RCE8)	DOI-BOEM
Maryland Offshore Wind Project (RCE9)	DOI-BOEM
Pantheon Solar Project (RCE10)	DOI-BLM

Table 1: Projects undergoing active Federal review in fiscal Q1 2025.

⁶ The project status was assessed using data captured from the Dashboard at the end of the quarter. Projects undergoing active review are projects that had, at any time in fiscal Ql 2025, a status of "planned" or "in progress." The Executive Director initially posts a FAST-41 covered project on the Dashboard in "planned" status. The project will remain in planned status until the Executive Director receives from the facilitating/lead agency a permitting timetable and posts the permitting timetable to the Dashboard, at which point the project's status changes to "in progress."

Projects undergoing active review may also be characterized as projects for which, at any time in fiscal QI 2025, federal environmental reviews and authorizations were not "paused," "cancelled," or "completed." The Executive Director places a FAST-41 covered project in "paused" status if continued maintenance of all actions in the permitting timetable or continued Federal action in the environmental review and authorization process for the covered project is impossible, and the project has not been either "cancelled" or "completed."

Table 1: Projects undergoing active Federal review in fiscal Q1 2025, continued.

Project	Lead or Facilitating Agency
Renewable or Conventional Energy Production (RCE), Continued	
Perkins Renewable Energy Project (RCE11)	DOI-BLM
Samantha Solar (RCE12)	DOI-BLM
Seminoe Pumped Storage Project (RCE13)	FERC
Silver Star Solar (RCE14)	DOI-BLM
Skipjack Wind Farm (RCE15)	DOI-BOEM
South Bennett Solar (RCE16)	DOI-BLM
SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC (SouthCoast Wind) (RCE17)	DOI-BOEM
Stagecoach Wind (RCE18)	DOI-BLM
Vineyard Mid-Atlantic Offshore Wind Project (RCE19)	DOI-BOEM
Vineyard Northeast (RCE20)	DOI-BOEM
White Pine Pumped Storage (RCE21)	FERC
Electricity Transmission (ELT)	
Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (ELTI)	DOI-BLM
Grain Belt Express Transmission - Phase 1 (ELT2)	DOE-Loan Programs Office
Ports and Waterways (PWW)	
Sparrows Point Container Terminal (PWWI)	USACE
Water Resources Projects (WTR)	
Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion (WTR1)	USACE
Broadband (BRD)	
Alaska FiberOptic Project Segment 1 (BRD1)	DOC-NTIA
Navajo Nation Department of Education E-Rate Funded Broadband Project (BRD2)	DOI-BIA
Navajo Nation Gallup McKinley County Schools E-Rate Funded Broadband Project (BRD3)	DOI-BIA
Santa Fe Indian School Broadband (BRD4)	DOC-NTIA
Winnebago Tribe Broadband Connectivity Project (BRD5)	DOC-NTIA

Table 1: Projects undergoing active Federal review in fiscal Q1 2025, continued.

Project	Lead or Facilitating Agency
Carbon Capture (CCS)	
Pelican Carbon Sequestration Hub (CCSI)	DOE
Mining (MNG)	
South32 Hermosa Critical Minerals Project (MNGI)	USDA-FS

Note: Atlantic Shores South was formerly known as Atlantic Shores Project 1. SouthCoast Wind was formerly known as Mayflower Wind Energy Project.

Figure 1 shows the location of projects undergoing active Federal review in fiscal Q1 2025. The project labels correspond to those in Table 1.

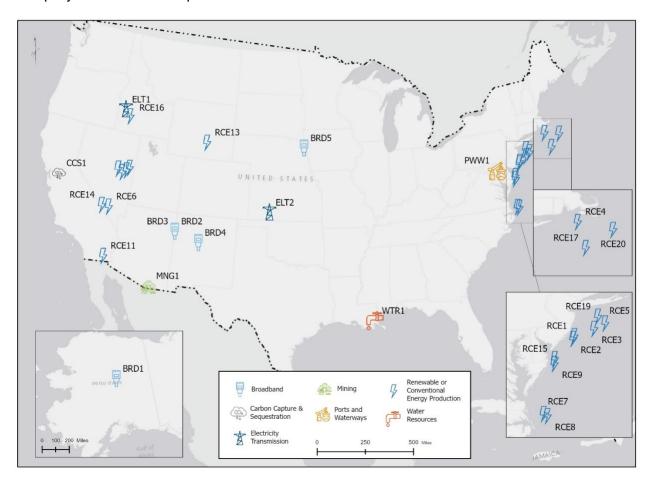


Figure 1: Projects undergoing active Federal review in fiscal Q1 2025.

The Federal environmental reviews and authorizations for the Beacon Wind Project and Ocean Wind 1 Project were paused prior to the quarter and remained paused for the entirety of the quarter. The Liberty Development and Production Plan Project was paused



prior to the quarter and was cancelled during the quarter. Therefore, these projects are not under active Federal review.

During this quarter, three projects completed all remaining milestones, thus concluding all federal environmental reviews and authorizations:

- The <u>Alaska FiberOptic Project Segment 1</u> project will install fiber broadband infrastructure directly to 5 Alaskan Native Villages along the Yukon River, benefitting nearly 600 households. The project sponsor anticipates that this project will aid residents and institutions throughout the communities, creating permanent jobs for Alaska Native and rural residents; bringing new opportunities for distance education, telemedicine, public health and safety; and aiding in rural economic development.
- Atlantic Shores South, located approximately 8.7 miles offshore New Jersey at its closest point, includes two wind energy facilities (Project 1 and Project 2) with a total capacity of up to 2,800 megawatts that BOEM estimates could power close to one million homes each year.
- The 500-kilovolt <u>Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line</u> will span approximately 300 miles total from a proposed substation near Boardman, Oregon to the Hemingway Substation near Melba, Idaho. The project will provide additional capacity for exchanging energy between the Pacific Northwest and the Intermountain West.

Nine new projects joined the portfolio during fiscal Q1 2025:

- Attentive Energy Two Offshore Wind Project
- Bluepoint Wind 1
- Navajo Nation Department of Education E-Rate Funded Broadband Project
- Navajo Nation Gallup McKinley County Schools E-Rate Funded Broadband Project
- > Pantheon Solar Project
- Pelican Carbon Sequestration Hub
- Samantha Solar
- South Bennett Solar
- Vineyard Mid-Atlantic Offshore Wind Project



Figure 2 provides a snapshot of the status of projects as of December 31, 2024, that were in active Federal review at any point in fiscal Q1 2025. The three projects that were paused or cancelled for the entire quarter are excluded. These 32 projects encompass 586 Federal agency milestone dates for the agencies' Federal environmental reviews and authorizations.

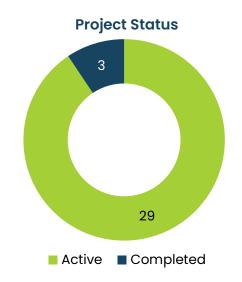
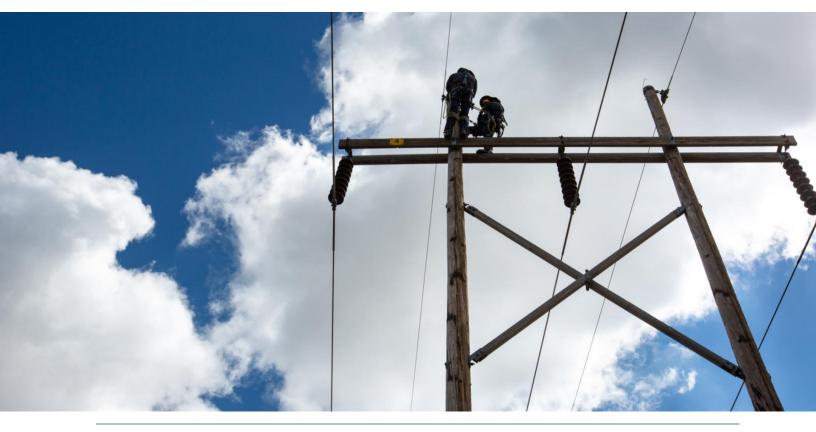


Figure 2: Snapshot of status, as of December 31, 2024, of each project in active review at any point in fiscal QI 2025.





4. Agency Compliance with the Provisions of FAST-41

This section provides an overview of the Acting Executive Director's evaluation of agency performance with respect to FAST-41 implementation. The Appendix includes a summary of the statutory requirements assessed throughout this report.

4.1. Initiation and Establishment of a Coordinated Project Plan

There are three projects that had deadlines within fiscal QI 2025 for establishing the CPP. Those projects (and their lead agencies) include Pantheon Solar Project (DOI-BLM), Perkins Renewable Energy Project (DOI-BLM), and Vineyard Mid-Atlantic Offshore Wind Project (DOI-BOEM). DOI-BOEM and DOI-BLM met the CPP establishment deadline for all three projects.

4.2. Coordinated Project Plan Quarterly Updates

In fiscal QI 2025, all agencies reviewed CPPs and met their FAST-41 requirements to update the CPPs in a timely manner for all of the applicable projects.

4.3. Agency Modification of Permitting Timetables

During fiscal QI 2025, agencies modified a total of 44 completion dates across 9 of the 32 projects undergoing active Federal environmental review and authorization.⁷ Table 2 lists these 44 modified completion dates organized by environmental review and authorization.⁸ Permitting timetable modifications are allowed under FAST-41 and occur for various reasons, including factors within and beyond Federal agency control, such as early completion of milestones or delayed or incomplete submissions by project sponsors. Due to the interdependent nature of certain review and permit actions, a schedule modification for one milestone may result in modifications of other milestones for that project. Permitting timetable modifications must follow a specific procedure under FAST-41 and therefore demonstrate agencies' active management of permitting timetables.

⁸ The agency responsible for a particular authorization is identified parenthetically after each authorization.



⁷ Note: The 44 completion dates were all modified (i.e., a date was changed-either completed earlier or later than the scheduled date) during fiscal Q1 2025. The 44 modifications include completion dates scheduled to occur during fiscal Q1 2025 and scheduled to occur after fiscal Q1 2025. These 44 completion dates are a subset of the 49 milestones modified during this quarter. The other 5 milestones modified during this quarter are alternative completion dates.

Table 2: Completion date modifications (including early completions) in fiscal QI 2025 organized by environmental review or authorization.

Environmental Review or Authorization	Number of Completion Dates Modified During Fiscal QI 2025
Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOI-BLM, DOC-NTIA)	6
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (FERC)	5
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 Review (FERC, DOC-NTIA)	2
Authorization and Certification (USACE)	2
Endangered Species Act (ESA) Consultation (DOI-FWS)	3
Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) Incidental Take Authorization (DOC-NOAA/NMFS)	3
Non-Federal Hydropower License (FERC)	2
NPS Permit (DOI-NPS)	1
Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Air Permit (EPA)	2
Right-of-Way (ROW) Authorization (DOI-BIA)	4
Right-of-Way (ROW) Authorization (DOI-BLM)	4
Right-of-Way (ROW) Authorization (DOI-FWS)	2
Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and/or Section 404 Clean Water Act (CWA) (USACE)	4
Section 408 Permit (USACE)	3
Use Authorization (DOI-BOR)	1
TOTAL	44

Note: Modifications each represent an instance of an agency changing a milestone date. Multiple modifications may occur to dates within a single project, action, or milestone.



Some schedule modifications result from activities occurring earlier than anticipated. Three (3) of the 44 completion dates were completed early⁹ during the reporting quarter. These completion dates are summarized in Table 3 below.¹⁰

Project	Environmental Review or Authorization Milestone	Original Completion Date	Actual Completion Date
Vineyard Northeast	Publish Notice of Receipt in Federal Register (LOA Only) (DOC-NOAA/NMFS)	18-Dec-2024	17-Dec-2024
Alaska FiberOptic Project Segment 1	Final decision/agency action (DOI-BLM)	31-Dec-2024	16-Dec-2024
Winnebago Tribe Broadband Connectivity Project	Issuance of decision for permit/approval (USACE)	27-Dec-2024	20-Dec-2024

Table 3: Federal agency completion dates completed early in fiscal Q1 2025.

Agencies are meeting FAST-41 permitting timetable modification requirements by proactively managing their permitting timetables, including following the statutory requirements for engaging in consultation, providing an explanation for modification of completion dates, and modifying completion dates at least 31 days in advance. Agencies' management of permitting timetables in accordance with FAST-41 not only achieves the goal of enhancing permitting transparency and predictability for project sponsors, state and federal partners, and the public, but also provides reliable information that, over time, will be used to identify areas for continued improvement in the Federal permitting process.

Before making a date modification that would necessitate an extension of a final completion date by more than 30 days after the originally-established final completion date, the facilitating or lead agency must request the Executive Director's authorization for the modification. Table 4 below identifies the projects and environmental reviews and authorizations for which prior authorization to modify the permitting timetable was necessary. In fiscal Ql 2025, agencies submitted 2 such requests to the Executive Director. Those 2 requests included modifications to completion dates for 11 environmental reviews and authorizations. The Executive Director granted the 2 requests, and the full Executive Director Determinations are available at the links in Table 4.

¹⁰ The agency responsible for a particular milestone is identified parenthetically after each milestone.



⁹ Completed early means completed early with respect to the original permitting timetable.

Project	Environmental Review or Authorization	Extension Request Summary
<u>Santa Fe Indian</u> <u>School</u> <u>Broadband</u>	 ROW Authorization (DOI-BIA Southern Pueblos Agency) ROW Authorization (DOI-BIA Zuni Agency) ROW Authorization (DOI-BLM) ROW Authorization (DOI-FWS) NPS Permit (DOI-NPS) EA (DOC-NTIA) Section 106 Review (DOC-NTIA) Section 404 CWA (USACE) 	NTIA sought to extend the project's permitting timetable at the request of the project sponsor. The project sponsor has had internal staffing changes, causing the project sponsor to require additional time for project execution. Accordingly, the project sponsor asked for an additional six months to complete its coordination with the Pueblos and Tribes, which the project sponsor is engaged in as part of the Section 106 process. At the time of the extension request, the project sponsor was continuing to work with the Pueblos and Tribes on cultural surveys and sensitivity concerns and was making small refinements to the alignment of the proposed route to avoid certain cultural resources. The Section 106 consultation and route alignment affect timing of the Environmental Assessment, which then affects the cooperating agency dependent actions. Specifically, the completion dates for rights-of-way from BLM, FWS, BIA Southern Pueblos Agency and BIA Zuni Agency; NPS Permit; and USACE Section 404 actions are dependent on the timing of completion dates for NTIA's NEPA action. Accordingly, NTIA's request included corresponding extensions for these actions as well. NTIA initiated a programmatic agreement for the project to mitigate against any further Section 106 delays.
<u>Silver Star Solar</u>	 EA (DOI-BLM) ROW Authorization (DOI-BLM) ESA Consultation (DOI-FWS) 	BLM's justification for this permitting timetable extension was based on the timing of the project sponsor's submission of baseline surveys, reports, and modeling, which BLM requires prior to proceeding with the NEPA process for the Project. To account for the additional time needed for the project sponsor to complete the surveys, studies, and modeling, including BLM review and comment, BLM requested an extension of approximately six months for issuance of the final NEPA document and the right- of-way authorization. The completion dates for the ESA consultation are dependent on the NEPA action because information and analysis contained in the draft EA is pertinent to development of the ESA consultation package. Accordingly, BLM will not submit a consultation request to FWS until issuance of the draft EA, and therefore, the request included an extension of the ESA consultation completion dates proportionate to the extension of the NEPA completion dates.

Table 4: Executive Director extension requests granted in fiscal Q1 2025.



Changes to an individual action's schedule may or may not impact (i.e., delay or move ahead of schedule) the overall project schedule. For example, a delay in one action may cause a delay in a dependent action; or, conversely, a delay in one intermediate milestone could be compensated for by expediting a subsequent milestone. Timetable modifications resulted in changes to overall project durations for six projects during fiscal Ql 2025, including three instances in which overall project durations decreased. Changes to these projects' overall durations ranged from 54 days shorter to 185 days longer; these changes are equivalent to less than half a percent to 28 percent of these projects' overall original durations. Timeline changes happen for numerous reasons attributable to agencies, project sponsors, and other causes. For example, an agency may need to conduct additional public comment/outreach, a project sponsor may need additional or less time to submit required application information, or a court order may lead to permitting timetable modifications.

4.4. Agency Conformance with Permitting Timetables

At the beginning of fiscal Q1 2025, there were 10 Federal agency completion dates that were *scheduled to occur* during the reporting period.¹¹ Of those completion dates, 8 were completed and 2 were moved beyond the end of the quarter. The 2 milestones that were moved beyond the end of the quarter were modified in accordance with FAST-41 and did not result in nonconformance.¹² Table 5, below, summarizes these completion dates by environmental review or authorization.

Environmental Review or Authorization	Number of Completion Dates
Completed	8
Authorization and Certification (USACE)	1
Construction and Operations Plan (DOI-BOEM)	1
Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) Incidental Take Authorization (DOC-NOAA/NMFS)	3
Right-of-Way Authorization (DOI-BLM)	1
Section 408 Permit (USACE)	1
Use Authorization (DOI-BOR)	1
Moved Beyond the End of the Quarter	2
Non-Federal Hydropower Licenses (FERC)	1
Section 408 Permit (USACE)	1
ΤΟΤΑΙ	10

Table 5: Permitting timetable Federal agency completion dates scheduled to occur in fiscal QI 2025.

¹² An agency may not make any modifications within 30 days of a completion date. This is known as the 30-day lockout period. In the event the agency responsible for the milestone is unable to meet the currently posted completion date, that agency will be in nonconformance with the permitting timetable and required to establish an "alternative completion date" pursuant to the permitting timetable nonconformance provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(2)(F)(ii).



¹¹ These 10 Federal agency completion dates are a subset of the 18 milestones scheduled to be completed during this quarter. The other 8 milestones scheduled to be completed during this quarter are alternative completion dates.

There were also 8 Federal agency *alternative* completion dates, which had been established due to the agencies responsible for the relevant actions being in nonconformance status with the permitting timetables, that were *scheduled to occur* during the reporting period.¹³ Of those alternative completion dates, all were completed. Table 6, below, summarizes these alternative completion dates by environmental review or authorization.

Environmental Review or Authorization	Number of Alternative Completion Dates
Completed	8
EIS (DOI-BOEM)	2
ESA Consultation (DOC-NOAA/NMFS)	1
ESA Consultation (DOI-FWS)	1
Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) Incidental Take Authorization (DOC-NOAA/NMFS)	1
NHPA Section 106 Review (DOI-BLM, DOI-BOEM)	2
Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 CWA (USACE)	1
TOTAL	8

Table 6: Permitting timetable Federal agency alternative completion dates scheduled to occur in fiscalQ1 2025.

¹³ These 8 Federal agency alternative completion dates are a subset of the 18 milestones scheduled to be completed during this quarter. The other 10 milestones scheduled to be completed during this quarter are completion dates.



During fiscal QI 2025, agencies modified a total of 5 alternative completion dates across 4 of the 32 FAST-41 projects undergoing active Federal environmental review and authorization.¹⁴ Table 7 identifies the number of alternative completion dates that were modified in fiscal QI 2025, organized by environmental review and authorization. Agency modification of alternative completion dates reflects agencies' ongoing maintenance of permitting timetables for actions in nonconformance.

Environmental Review or Authorization	Number of Alternative Completion Dates Modified During Fiscal Q1 2025
Endangered Species Act (ESA) Consultation (DOI-BLM)	1
NHPA Section 106 Review (DOI-BLM, DOI-BOEM)	3
MMPA Incidental Take Authorization (DOC-NOAA/NMFS)	1
TOTAL	5

Table 7: Alternative completion date modifications in fiscal Q1 2025organized by environmental review or authorization.

4.5. Agency Posting of Required Information

It is challenging for the Acting Executive Director to independently verify whether the content posted to the Dashboard meets the requirements of the "Postings by Agencies" section of FAST-41,¹⁵ because much of the information required to be hyperlinked and made available within five business days of agency receipt is only available to the agencies. Accordingly, the Acting Executive Director verifies whether agencies posted any information for the statutorily required items for a project. At the end of fiscal Q1 2025, agencies were meeting this requirement 97 percent of the time. As of publication of this report, agencies are meeting this requirement 100 percent of the time.

 $^{^{15}}$ The "Postings by Agencies" requirements (42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(b)(3)) can be found in Section 5 of the Appendix.



¹⁴ The 5 alternative completion dates were all modified (i.e., a date was changed–either completed earlier or later than the scheduled date) during fiscal Q1 2025. The 5 modifications include completion dates scheduled to occur during fiscal Q1 2025 and scheduled to occur after fiscal Q1 2025. These 5 alternative completion dates are a subset of the 49 milestones modified during this quarter. The other 44 milestones modified during this quarter are completion dates.

5. Acting Executive Director Technical Assistance

The Acting Executive Director supports robust implementation of FAST-41 by working with agencies to provide technical assistance throughout the federal environmental review and authorization process. This includes providing Dashboard support and direction for agency staff regarding development of initial CPPs, development and management of permitting timetables, and posting of required information. The Acting Executive Director will continue to work with agencies to meet posted completion dates and to ensure that when a posted completion date is missed, alternative completion dates are timely added to the permitting timetable, along with explanations for missed completion dates and monthly status reports.



Appendix. Statutory Requirements

1. Initiation and Establishment of a Coordinated Project Plan

FAST-41 Initiation Notice. The FAST-41 process begins when a project sponsor¹⁶ submits a notice of the initiation of a FAST-41 covered project (a.k.a., FAST-41 Initiation Notice, or "FIN") to the Executive Director and the appropriate facilitating or lead agency.¹⁷ The Executive Director must make a project entry on the Permitting Dashboard within 14 days of receiving a FIN unless the facilitating or lead agency, or the Executive Director, determines that the project is not a covered project.¹⁸

Agency Invitations. Within 21 days after the Executive Director makes a project entry on the Dashboard, the facilitating or lead agency must invite all Federal agencies likely to have responsibilities with respect to the proposed project to become a participating or cooperating agency for purposes of FAST-41.¹⁹

Coordinated Project Plan Establishment. The facilitating or lead agency must establish a CPP "not later than 60 days after the date on which the Executive Director must make a specific entry for the project on the Dashboard."²⁰ A CPP coordinates agency participation in, and completion of, the Federal environmental reviews and authorizations required for a FAST-41 covered project.²¹ To that end, the CPP must include a list of all entities with an environmental review or authorization responsibility for a project; their respective roles and responsibilities; a discussion of potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies; plans and a schedule for public and tribal outreach and coordination; and the project permitting timetable.²²

The CPP is central to the management of the environmental review and authorization process for a FAST-41 covered project. The permitting timetable, which is posted and managed publicly on the Permitting Dashboard according to the requirements of FAST-41, is a key component of the CPP and includes intermediate and final completion dates for all Federal environmental reviews and authorizations required for the project.²³

 $^{^{23}}$ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(2). An intermediate completion date is the date on which an agency completes a component part, or stage, of a particular environmental review or authorization required by statute (e.g., publication of a draft EIS under NEPA, or completion of a Biological Assessment under the ESA). A final completion date is the date on which an agency completes an overall environmental review or authorization required by statute (e.g., publication of a Record of Decision for an EIS under NEPA, or issuance of a Biological Opinion under the ESA).



¹⁶ Under FAST-41, a "project sponsor" means an entity, including any private, public, or public-private entity, seeking an authorization for a covered project. 42 U.S.C. § 4370m(18).

¹⁷ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(a)(1)(A).

¹⁸ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(b)(2)(A)(ii).

¹⁹ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(a)(2)(A).

²⁰ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(1)(A).

²¹ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(1).

²² 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(1)(B).

Thus, the permitting timetable provides transparency, predictability, and a comprehensive view of all the steps that are necessary for completion of the Federal environmental review and authorization process.

2. Coordinated Project Plan Quarterly Updates

FAST-41 requires the facilitating or lead agency to review and update the CPP at least once per quarter.²⁴ While an agency's updates to the permitting timetable are integral to the process, the other statutorily-required aspects of the CPP also need to be reviewed and, if necessary, updated. Agencies meet this statutory requirement by certifying, on the Dashboard, that they have reviewed and updated their CPPs timely.

The Permitting Council uses the certification of this FAST-41 requirement as a key indicator that agencies are actively managing their permitting timetables and updating project CPPs, as needed.

3. Agency Modification of Permitting Timetables

Once a permitting timetable has been established as part of the CPP for a project, FAST-41 allows the lead or facilitating agency to modify completion dates set forth in the permitting timetable if certain statutory prerequisites are met. Specifically, the facilitating or lead agency may modify Federal agency completion dates only after:

- Consulting with the Executive Director, affected cooperating agencies, participating agencies, and the project sponsor before making the modification;
- Providing a written, publicly-posted justification for the modification;
- Obtaining Executive Director authorization for changes that would necessitate an extension of a final completion date by more than 30 days after the originally-established final completion date.²⁵

Additionally, a completion date may not be modified within 30 days of that completion date, thus requiring agencies to modify completion dates at least 31 days in advance.²⁶

4. Agency Conformance with Permitting Timetables

Each Federal agency is required to meet the intermediate and final completion dates in the permitting timetable posted on the Permitting Dashboard.²⁷ If an agency does not conform to the established timetable—that is, if an agency does not meet the

²⁷ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(2)(F)(i).



²⁴ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(1)(B).

²⁵ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(2)(D).

²⁶ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(2)(D)(ii).

completion dates set forth in the permitting timetable—the statute requires that the agency responsible for the delayed action must:

- Provide, for posting on the Dashboard, an explanation of why the agency was unable to meet the completion date.
- Establish an alternative completion date in consultation with the facilitating or lead agency.
- Provide, for posting on the Dashboard, monthly reports describing all agency actions relating to the project until the agency has taken final action on the delayed authorization or review.²⁸

5. Agency Posting of Required Information

For each covered project added to the Permitting Dashboard, FAST-41 requires the facilitating or lead agency, and each cooperating and participating agency, to post to the Permitting Dashboard a hyperlink that directs the public to a website containing certain project information. Specifically, and to the extent consistent with applicable law, agencies must post:

- > The project FIN;
- Either the application and supporting documents that have been submitted by a project sponsor for any required environmental review or authorization, or a notice explaining how the public may obtain access to such documents;
- A description of any Federal agency action taken or decision made that materially affects the status of a covered project, and any significant supporting documentation;
- Information on the status of mitigation measures that were agreed to as part of the environmental review and permitting process, including whether and when the mitigation measures have been fully implemented;
- A description of the status of any litigation to which the agency is a party that is directly related to the project, including, if practicable, any judicial document made available on an electronic docket maintained by a Federal, State, or local court;
- Any document described above that is not available by hyperlink on another website.²⁹

²⁹ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(b)(3)(A)(i)-(ii).



²⁸ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(c)(2)(F)(ii).

Agencies additionally must post directly to the Permitting Dashboard information about project-related public meetings, public hearings, and public comment periods, as that information becomes available.³⁰

Agencies must make the information described above available not later than five business days after the date on which the Federal agency receives the information.³¹

³¹ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(b)(3)(B).



³⁰ 42 U.S.C. § 4370m-2(b)(3)(A)(iii).