

# ***THE COMPONENTS OF A NEPA ANALYSIS***

## **PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION**

The difference between the existing resource condition(s) and the desired resource condition(s) as identified during the NFMA analysis.

## **PROPOSED ACTION**

Specific management action(s) prescribed to move the resource(s) from the existing condition(s) to the desired condition(s). This is an end product of the NFMA analysis.

## **SCOPING**

The process where the Proposed Action is made public, and people are given the opportunity to express any conflicts that they may have with the Proposed Action. This process may occur during both the NFMA and NEPA phases of analysis, and is usually ongoing until a decision is made. While positive, supportive comments are welcome in scoping, the true intent of scoping is to identify what it is that people DON'T LIKE about the Proposed Action.

## **NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT**

Early in the project planning process, the public will be encouraged to provide timely comments directly on the proposed project. New appeal regulations (36 CFR 215) direct responses to focus on the proposed action, be within the scope of the proposed action, and have a direct relationship to the proposed action. In order to appeal a decision, comments submitted during this notice must include supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

These are the *legitimate conflicts* with the Proposed Action that result in the development of alternatives to the Proposed Action.

## **ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION**

Modifications of the Proposed Action designed to resolve a significant issue(s). For example, changes in the location of prescribed activities, intensity of activities, mitigation measures applied to activities, different methods of treatment, etc.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

Specifically, what would happen to the environment (social and biological) if the Proposed Action, or an Alternative to the Proposed Action, were implemented?