



NEPA Planning Process

Scoping Phase- Identifies issues and obtains input from the public and interested agencies and organizations early in the planning process (***We are here***).

Alternatives Development- Identifies a range of alternatives that meet the purpose and need for the action.

Preparation of Environmental Assessment (EA) and Public Review- Analyzes the potential environmental impacts of alternatives, and identifies the agency preferred alternative. The public is notified of the availability of the EA document and given an opportunity for comment. Tentatively scheduled Spring 2009.

Decision Document- A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be prepared, if appropriate. However, if the potential for significant impacts is identified, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared. Tentatively scheduled Fall 2009.