The NEPA Process

1. Agency Identifies a Need for Action and Develops a Proposal

2. Are Environmental Effects Likely to Be Significant?

3. Proposed Action is Described in Agency Categorical Exclusion (CE)

4. Does the Proposal Have Extraordinary Circumstances?

5. Significant Environmental Effects Uncertain or No Agency CE

6. Develop Environmental Assessment (EA) with Public Involvement to the Extent Practicable

7. Finding of No Significant Impact

8. Significant Environmental Effects May or Will Occur

9. Notice of intent to prepare Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

10. Public Scoping and Appropriate Public Involvement

11. Draft EIS

12. Public Review and Comment and Appropriate Public Involvement

13. Final EIS

14. Public Availability of FEIS

15. Record of Decision

Implementation with Monitoring as Provided in the Decision

*Significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns or substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns may necessitate preparation of a supplemental EIS following either the draft or final EIS or the Record of Decision (CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c)).