

ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION AND COMPLIANCE PROCESS

SCOPING

ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION & ANALYSIS

FEASIBILITY LEVEL ANALYSIS

CHIEF'S REPORT

ALTERNATIVES MILESTONE 1

Vertical team concurrence on array of alternatives

STUDY START TO ALTERNATIVES MILESTONE

- Scoping (integrated with Plan Form). General documentation of scoping results for Report. NOI in Federal Register.
- ESA & 106 coordination initiated (See ESA Box). Consultation and coordination initiation letters.
- Invite Cooperating Agencies. MOU.
- Initiate FWCA Coordination. Negotiate SOW & MIPR funds.
- Compile Public/Agency/Tribal concerns, ID significant resources to consider. Document.
- ID info that exists vs. inventory need for analysis. Document and Risk Register.
- Models – ID ideal model/develop model RP. Review Plan (RP) for model certification.
 - ER projects should seek certification ASAP.
- Develop environmental screening criteria. Document.
- Risk Register entries. Populate.

TSP MILESTONE 2

Vertical team concurrence on tentatively selected plan

AM TO TENTATIVELY SELECTED PLAN (TSP)

- Describe affected environmental/baseline. Draft into Report.
 - Receive FWS draft CAR. Integrate & address recommendations.
 - Alternatives Evaluation & Comparison: Draft into Report.
 - Describe environmental impacts per alternative.
 - ID mitigation measures per alternative.
 - Environmental Modeling and CE/ICA analysis:
 - Ecosystem Restoration (ER): Model certified at AM; Collect data, run model; Conduct CE/ICA analysis to determine TSP. Model analysis/CE/ICA appendix.
 - Mitigation: When mitigation measures drive the costs or decision in plan selection, use/get certified model; Same process as ER above. Model Analysis, mitigation in CE/ICA.
 - All other: Describe mitigation & estimate preliminary costs; Model cert by ADM, w/model & CE/ICA complete for final Report. Describe mitigation in draft Report.
- Other Tasks & Products for Draft Report:
- Prepare 404(b)1 analysis. Appendix to draft Report.
 - Draft Monitoring & Adaptive Management Plan (Critical in ER projects; presented at TSP). Appendix to draft Report.
 - Prepare draft BA(s), and EFH/Magnuson-Stevens determinations, if needed. Provide documents for review, determinations included in draft Report language.
 - Cultural Resources review; SHPO/THPO concurrence on APE. Document compliance in Report. Provide documentation.
 - Analysis for Prime and Unique Farmland, Wild and Scenic River, Migratory Bird analysis, etc. Document compliance in Report. Provide documentation.
 - HTRW Phase 1 analysis, if needed. Survey results in draft Report.
 - Risk Register – review/update prior risks, ID new risks/tasks.

3

AGENCY DECISION MILESTONE

Agency endorsement of the recommended plan

TSP TO AGENCY DECISION (ADM)

- Release of Draft Integrated Report, with draft FONSI (if EA); EIS – File Draft with EPA. Notice of Availability in Federal Register. FONSI/NOA.
- Public meetings as needed to solicit comments.
- Respond to ATR/MSO/OWPR comments.
- Identify relevant Public/Agency/Tribe comments and develop strategy to resolve. Work on responses. Review if changes are needed to formulation to address.
- Address outstanding policy / technical issues – IEPR. Document resolution.
- Conduct Phase II HTRW, as needed. Survey.
- Conduct cultural resources field investigations (as needed, risk based). Conclusions & mitigation decision/requirements.
- Certify mitigation model (if not completed yet).
- Release of BA(s) to USFWS and NMFS. Consultation continues (if required).
 - NMFS/FWS Response to BA (30 days).
 - ESA formal consultation begins, if required
- Risk Register – Review prior entrees. Update risks.

4

CIVIL WORKS REVIEW BOARD

ADM TO CIVIL WORKS REVIEW BOARD (CWRB)

- Final revisions of Report based on comments. Document updates.
- ESA formal consultation continues (See ESA Box). Provide any information needed for analysis, if not in BA.
- Final FWCAR incorporated with responses. Receive FWCAR, and add as appendix to Report. Respond in the body of the Report to all recommendations.
- Update compliance sections of Report. Document status of all compliance in Report. Provide the documents/permits, etc. from other agencies demonstrating compliance process is complete and final commitments in appendix.
- NEPA comment/response complete. Document updates and provide comment/response matrix, appendix, etc. as appropriate.
- NEPA conclusions FONSI/ROD. Update FONSI with conclusions of compliance and findings. Note District Engineer signature is after ASA review. Draft ROD for HQ.
- Data collection and model run for mitigation on selected plan (quantified with certified model, checked for CE/ICA). Documentation, model analysis, CE/ICA.
- Complete Monitoring & Adaptive Management Plan. Final plan including compliance monitoring and restoration performance monitoring and triggers.

5

CHIEF'S REPORT

CWRB TO CHIEF'S REPORT (CRM)

- *Note: Activities are led by HQ. Requested assistance usually includes:
- For document including an EIS, prepare Notice for Federal Register per HQ guidance (if district will release). Notice of Availability.
 - Release Report for State & Agency review. Confirm mailing lists. Release at direction of HQ with HQ cover letter.
 - Release Final (File Feasibility Report with EPA-Notice of Availability).
 - Draft ROD completion (EIS only):
 - Update to include response to substantive comments;
 - Update any commitments.
 - Respond to significant comments in coordination with HQ.

FORMULATION & NEPA CROSSWALK

Plan Formulation Step	NEPA Compliance
■ Scope for Project	■ Scope for NEPA
■ Specify Problems & Opportunities, Objectives & Constraints	■ Describe Purpose & Need consistent with project scope
■ Inventory and Forecast Conditions (Future Without)	■ Describe existing conditions, trends, No Action alternative
■ Formulate alternative plans to address Objectives	■ Include reasonable range of alternatives that address Purpose and Need
■ Evaluate effects of alternative plans	■ Evaluate alternatives' effects to resources.
■ Compare alternative plans	■ Compare alternatives to No Action, ID the Environmental Alternative
■ Select a Tentative Selected Plan	■ Identify the Agency Preferred Plan
■ Release for Public Review	■ Release for Public Review



KEY

TEXT IN BLACK IS A TASK.
TEXT IN BLUE IS A PRODUCT.

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT – FORMAL CONSULTATION (ESA)

Timeframes for formal consultation are established by the ESA. The Act and Section 7 regulations require that formal consultation be concluded within 90 days, and the regulations require that the final biological opinion be delivered within 45 days after the conclusion of formal consultation. During this period, the Corps should request review of a draft biological opinion. The final biological opinion must be submitted with the Final Feasibility Report.