

# NHPA and NEPA in NRCS Planning

## SECTION 106

## Nine Steps of Planning

## NEPA

### STEP 1: INITIATE CONSULTATION

- A. SHPO
- B. [Tribes & THPO](#)
- C. [Native Hawaiian Organizations](#)

### STEP 2: IDENTIFY AND EVALUATE HISTORIC PROPERTIES

- A. Define Area of Potential Effect
- B. Identify Historic Properties
- C. Evaluate Properties in APE

### STEP 3: ASSESS EFFECTS

- A. No Adverse Effects
- B. Adverse Effects
- C. Modify project to avoid Adverse Effects

### STEP 4: RESOLVE ADVERSE EFFECTS

- A. Notify Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- B. Negotiate with consulting parties on ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects
- C. Draft and sign agreement document (MOA/PA)
- D. Coordinate with signing parties to agreement document
- E. Monitor project or carry out other stipulations of MOA/PA
- F. Monitoring report

### PHASE I: Data Collection and Analysis

1. Identify Problems and Opportunities
2. Determine Objectives
3. [Inventory Resources](#)
4. Analyze Resource Data

### PHASE II: Decision Support

5. Formulate Alternatives
6. Evaluate Alternatives
7. Make Decisions

### PHASE III: Application

8. Implement the plan
9. Evaluate the Plan

Inventory, data gathering, and NEPA pre-planning should coincide with consultation between the Lead Federal Agency and the consulting parties such as SHPO, Tribes, or other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impacts involved in a proposal or a reasonable alternative(s).

### CATEGORIZE as CAT-X, EA or EIS

- A. Will project effect the human environment
- B. [Start coordination with agencies and Tribes](#)

### SCOPE NEPA ANALYSIS

- A. Gather data
- B. Assess type of permit needed
- C. Determine necessary mitigation
- D. Start EA/EIS

### NEPA ANALYSIS

- A. Write EA/EIS
- B. Obtain Permits
- C. Design mitigation

### PUBLIC, TRIBAL, AND AGENCY REVIEW of DRAFTS

Public Notice:  
30-days for EA  
45-days for EIS

### FINAL NEPA DOCUMENT

EA- FONSI  
EIS- ROD

### MONITOR CONSTRUCTION