Weighing the Impacts Environmental analyses sized to the project

Types of NEPA analyses



Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

EISs comprehensively analyze federal action that will have impacts on the human environment (positive or negative). An EIS describes the purpose and need for a proposed action, describes the affected environment, discusses alternatives to a proposed action, and analyzes environmental impacts and ways to mitigate them.



Environmental Assessment (EA)

EAs identify environmental effects of proposed actions that are anticipated to have no significant impacts. Like EISs, EAs describe the purpose and need for a proposed action, describe the affected environment, discuss alternatives to a proposed action, and analyze impacts and ways to mitigate them. The EA will recommend either issuing a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or completing an EIS if it finds potentially significant environmental impacts.

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Determinations of NEPA Adequacy (DNAs)

If proposed activities are covered by an existing analysis, the BLM can rely on an internal Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA). These determinations also address conformance with approved land-use plans.



Categorical of Exclusion (CX)

Categorical Exclusions are previously identified actions determined not to significantly or cumulatively impact the human environment.

The BLM analyzes all land use applications it receives. We do so using scientifically based studies and data, as well as traditional and



ecological knowledge.

Land-use plans and large actions
Most complex environmental analysis
More opportunities for public engagement
More procedural requirements
More time to prepare

✓ Smaller actions or some land-use plan amendments
✓ Less complex environmental analysis than an EIS
✓ Shorter public engagement timeframe
✓ Fewer procedural requirements
✓ Less time to prepare



✓ Routine actions
✓ Already analysized based project criteria
✓ No public engagement required
✓ Less time to prepare

Actions already covered by previous NEPA analyses
No public engagement required
Requires extensive review of existing EISs and EAs
Less time to prepare

The Alaska NEPA Register project count as of the end of 2020.



Learn more about Alaska's NEPA projects at https://www.blm.gov/alaska/planning