

Table 1.4-1. Land Use Planning Process Steps.

PLANNING STEPS	DESCRIPTION	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Identify Issues	Identify issues or land use problems that need to be resolved. This is an on-going process.	
Develop Planning Criteria	Planning criteria establish constraints and guides for the planning process; streamline the process; establish standards, rules, and measures; set the scope of inventory and data collection; identify the range of alternatives; and estimate the extent of analysis.	
Issue Notice of Intent (NOI)	Publish the NOI in the <i>Federal Register</i> , local media, mailings, etc. The NOI identifies the preliminary issues and planning criteria and provides for a 30-day public review and comment period. This is also the start of the formal NEPA scoping process inviting the public to identify issues or land use problems that need to be resolved.	<i>Public review and comment</i>
Collect Inventory Data	Collect inventory data based on the planning criteria. Data are generally collected from existing sources. New data collection is limited to what is needed to resolve the planning issues identified.	<i>Data call from public</i>
Analyze the Management Situation	Gather information on the current management situation, describe pertinent physical and biological characteristics, and evaluate the capability and condition of the resources. This analysis provides a reference for developing and evaluating alternatives.	<i>Public review and comment</i>
Formulate Alternatives	Identify a range of reasonable combinations of resource uses and management practices. Develop reasonable alternatives that address issues identified during scoping and that offer a distinct choice among potential management strategies. Include a no action alternative.	<i>Public review and comment</i>
Estimate Effects of Alternatives	Estimate the impacts of each alternative on the environment and management situation.	
Select the Preferred Alternative	The Field Manager recommends to the State Director a preferred alternative that best resolves planning issues and promotes balanced multiple use objectives. The State Director approves the selection of the preferred alternative along with the other alternatives under consideration	
Issue Draft RMP/EIS	Publish the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the <i>Federal Register</i> , media, mailings, etc. The NOA notifies the public of the availability of the Draft RMP/EIS and provides for a 90-day public review and comment period.	<i>Public review and comment</i>
Prepare the Final RMP/EIS	Prepare the Final EIS to include responses to the comments received during review of the draft EIS.	

PLANNING STEPS	DESCRIPTION	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Governor's Consistency Review	Initiate a 60-day Governor's review to identify inconsistencies with State or local plans.	<i>State Government Review and comment</i>
Notice of Significant Change	When a protest period or consistency review results in significant changes to the propose plan, issue a Notice of Significant Change providing an additional 30 comment period	<i>30 day public comment period</i>
Protests	The State Director may sign and implement that portion of the plan not under protest	<i>Public protest to decisions</i>
Plan Approval	Once protests have been resolved and the Governor's consistency review has been completed, the State Director approves the RMP by signing the Record of Decision (ROD).	
Monitor and Evaluate the RMP	Ensure that the plan is continually monitored and evaluated until it is replaced.	

Note: Some of the planning steps can be done simultaneously while others must be completed before a step can be started. For example, the alternatives have to be formulated before a preferred alternative can be determined.