



Federal Aviation  
Administration

# Environmental Overview

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# Overview



## Environmental:

- NEPA Background & Basics
- FAA and NEPA
- Planning and NEPA
- New/Upcoming

## Other topics:

- System for Award Management
- Electronic Documents

# Why NEPA?

During the 1960's environmental damage from human activities was becoming apparent:

- NY Times Editorial, 1969:

By land, sea, and air, the enemies of man's survival relentlessly press their attack. The most dangerous of all these enemies is man's own undirected technology. The radioactive poisons from nuclear tests, the runoff into rivers of nitrogen fertilizers, the smog from automobiles, the pesticides in the food chains, and the destruction of top soil from strip mining are examples of the failure to foresee and control the untoward consequences of modern technology



# Why NEPA?

- The burning of [Cuyahoga River](#) in Ohio (1969)
- Santa Barbara Oil Spill (1969)
- Interstate Highway System (1960s)
- [Lake Erie](#) declared dead (1960s)

Congress and the President witnessed the damage and took action





## As a Result....

- National Environmental Policy Act - 1969
- Clean Air Act - 1970
- First Earth Day - 1970
- EPA established - 1971
- Clean Water Act amended - 1972





# NEPA

- Airport & Airway Improvement Act
- Aviation Safety & Noise Abatement Act
- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Coastal Barrier Resources Act
- Coastal Zone Management Act
- Consultation & Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments
- Department of Transportation Section 4(f)
- Endangered Species Act
- Environmental Justice
- Farmland Protection Policy Act
- Federal Aviation Act
- Numerous FAA Advisory Circulars
- FAA Order 1050.1E
- FAA Order 5050.4B
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act
- Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act
- Floodplain Management
- Hazardous Wildlife Attractants
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Pollution Prevention Act
- Protection of Wetlands
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Uniform Relocation Assistance & Real Property Acquisition Policies Act
- Wetlands
- Wild & Scenic Rivers Act

**And Many, Many More**

# WHAT NEPA IS

- **The Country's national policy on protecting the environment.**
- "Procedurally rich"
- Requires Federal agencies to evaluate environmental effects of their actions **before** making decisions on those actions.
  - Document their analysis
  - Disclose the effects of their actions
- Fail to follow procedures = **delay**.



# WHAT NEPA IS NOT



- An option (neither are “special purpose laws”).
  - **Procedures must be followed**
- A tool to support decisions already made or a sponsor’s desired action.
- Closed to public or agency participation.
- A way to delay needed projects.
  - **(But proper planning and environmental analyses, disclosure and consultation must occur to avoid delays.)**



# What NEPA Does Not Do

- NEPA does not:
  - Require a Federal agency to:
    - Place environmental concerns above all other factors critical to a decision
    - Select the environmentally preferable alternative
  - Prohibit adverse environmental effects
  - Stop needed projects
  - Generate mountains of useless paperwork



# How FAA Complies with NEPA

- Considers environmental effects before making decisions on projects
- FAA's Vision Statement Includes NEPA's intent:
  - We strive to reach the next level of safety, efficiency, ***environmental responsibility*** and global leadership.
- FAA orders and guidance:
  - Order 1050.1, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures
  - Order 5050.4: NEPA Implementing Instructions for Airport Projects



# FAA Environmental Orders

## Why Do We Have TWO Orders?

### Order 1050.1E

FAA Agency–Wide Policies &  
Procedures for Compliance with  
NEPA & CEQ

All Lines of Business – General  
Instructions

Effective June 8, 2004

### Order 5050.4B

*NEPA Implementing Procedures  
for Airport Projects*

Office of Airport Use  
Airport Development Actions

Effective April 28, 2006

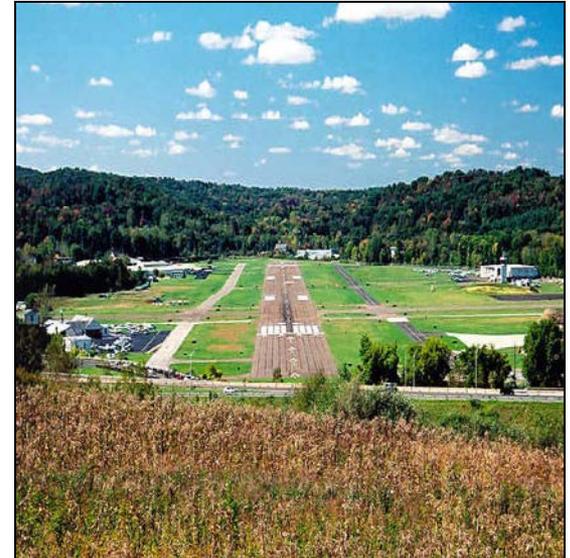
Also Includes:

Environmental Desk Reference for  
Airport Actions (October 2007)

# Projects that Require Environmental Review

## Federal Actions

- 1) New Airport Development Project
- 2) Receive Federal Grant (AIP) or PFC Funding
- 3) Acquire Land or Land Release
- 4) Some Part 150 Measures
- 5) Air Traffic Control Procedures
- 6) Airport Layout Plan Updates



# Levels of NEPA Review

- Many projects fall into CAT-EX categories
  - Must fall into a CAT-EX category (Order 1050.1 Chapter 3) **AND** not involve an extraordinary circumstance
  - Documented on Categorical Exclusion Form
- Next step up is an Environmental Assessment (EA)
  - This does not have to be painful
  - Plan Ahead!
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
  - Required when impacts, including mitigation, remain significant



# Environmental Made Easy

(Well, Easier...)

# Plan Ahead!!



# Overlapping Planning and NEPA

- Project Manager / Planner
  - Assist with:
    - Purpose and Need; Justification
    - Alternative Development
    - Revaluations as required by environmental findings
- Environmental Protection Specialist
  - Provide review and comment during the planning process
  - Team Player in the planning process and Team Leader in the environmental process



# Overlapping Planning and NEPA

## Master Plan

- Airport Master Plans: AC 150/5070-6, Chapter 5:  
“The purpose of considering environmental factors in airport master planning is to help the sponsor thoroughly evaluate airport development alternatives and to provide information that will help expedite subsequent environmental processing.”

**Identify key environmental issues**

# What is required from the planning phase...

- A **strong** purpose and need;
  - A **clear** justification;
  - **Reasonable** alternatives considered;
- ...In order to move into the environmental phase!



# Avoiding Pitfalls

Is the Project Ready for NEPA analysis?

- Is it on the ALP?
- Are the justification requirements met?
- Are the eligibility requirements met?
- Is the Purpose and Need still valid?
- Is the funding likely?



# Take Home Message...

- Documents must be – clear, concise, supported, defensible, and fully coordinated
- Integrate planning and NEPA at the earliest possible time
- Planning decisions should reflect environmental values



# New/Upcoming on the Environmental-Side

- New:
  - Solar Analysis
- In Process:
  - 1050.1F
  - Recycling Plan Guidance
  - New AC for Wildlife Hazard Assessments, listings
  - Lead
  - Sustainability Guidance
  - 5050.4B and Desk Reference
  - Mitigation Monitoring
  - GHG Guidance from CEQ
  - Mineral Extraction Guidance



# Questions?



# System of Award Management

- System for Award Management (SAM)
  - Formerly the Central Contractor Registry (CCR)
  - Management of DUNs Number
    - Required for federal contracts or **grants**
  - Overseen by the General Services Administration
  - SAM is combining federal procurement systems and the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance into one new system. **This consolidation is being done in phases.**
  - **Check the status of your DUNs Number early and renew it before it expires!**
    - **<https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM>**



# Electronic Documents



# Electronic Documents



MORRIS WAS FINDING IT MORE DIFFICULT THAN MOST TO ADJUST TO THE CONCEPT OF A 'PAPERLESS' OFFICE

# Electronic Documents



THEY'RE THE DRAFT GUIDELINES ON HOW TO  
RUN A 'PAPERLESS' OFFICE

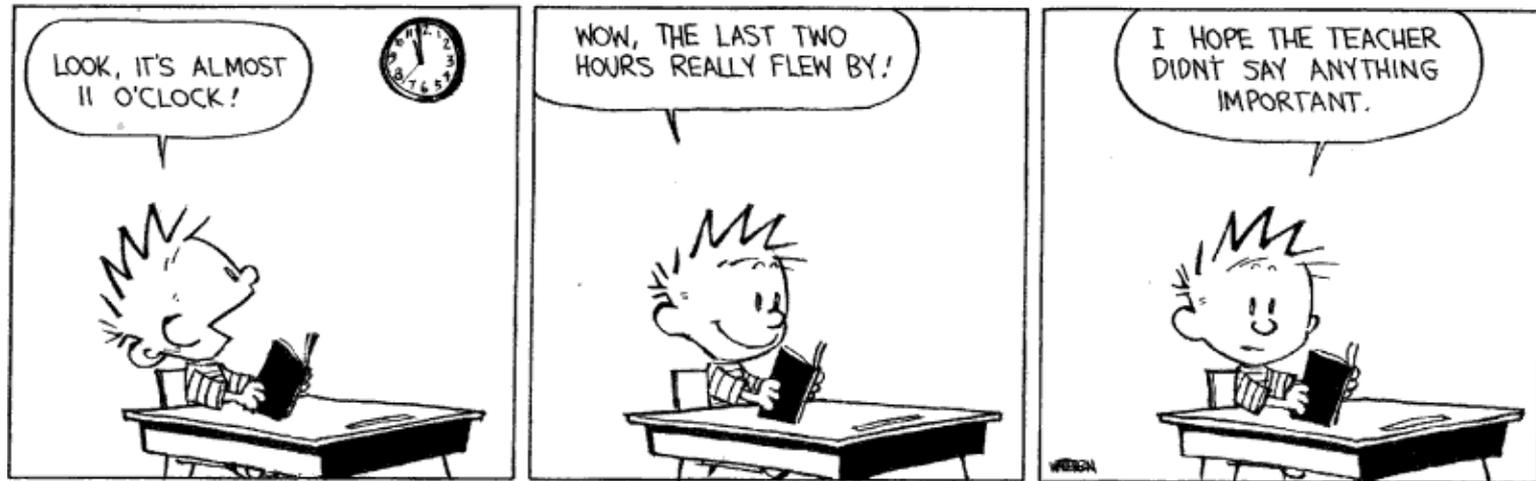
# Electronic Documents



Going Paperless...



# Questions?



# Extraordinary Circumstances

Are factors or circumstances in which a normally categorically excluded action may have a significant environmental effect that then requires further analysis in an EA or EIS.



- Social Impacts & Land Use
- Noise & Air Quality



- T&E Species; Wetlands; Floodplains; Coastal Zones

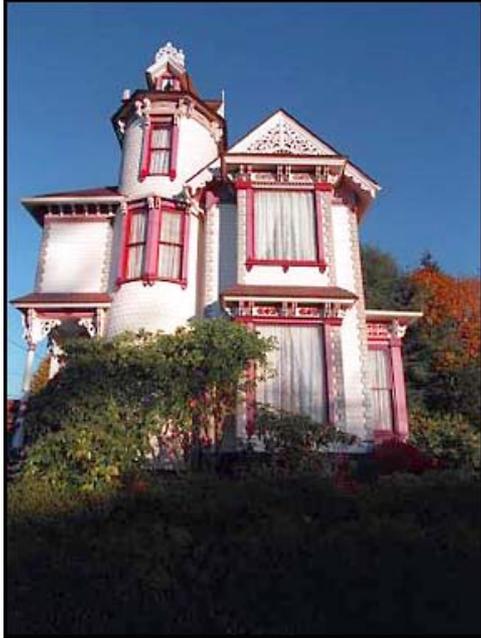


- Water Quality



- Cultural Resources

# Extraordinary Circumstances (continued)



- Historic Properties



- Farmlands



- Section 4(f)

# Extraordinary Circumstances (continued)

- Highly Controversial on Environmental Grounds

An Action that is opposed on environmental grounds by a Federal, state, or local unit of government agency or by a substantial number of the persons affected by such action

