

# Using the Internet to Obtain Environmental Data Needed for Submittal of Airport Projects for FAA Environmental Review

Presented to: FAA Western-Pacific Region

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Airports Conference

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May 7, 2008



Federal Aviation  
Administration



# NEPA Requirements



- FAA must comply with NEPA for all proposed airport development projects that require a federal action.
- FAA's Federal actions: Approval of an Airport Layout Plan (ALP), Federal funding requests, Passenger Facility Charge approvals, including locally funded items that require ALP approval.



# Where do you start?



- **Determining what level of environmental documentation required**
- **Consideration of Extraordinary Circumstances & Special Purpose Laws**

# Types of NEPA Review

- **Categorical Exclusion (CATEX)**
- **Environmental Assessment (EA)**
- **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**



# Extraordinary Circumstances & Special Purpose Laws?



- **FAA and sponsor prepare any required documentation to comply with Special Purpose Laws.**
- **These are Federal laws, regulations, executive orders or departmental orders that are required outside of NEPA.**

Endangered Species Act\*, Coastal Zone Management Act, National Historic Preservation Act\*, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Floodplains, Wetlands, etc.

\* FAA Staff consultation action required.

# Really we are here to help...



# Federal Aviation Administration www.faa.gov

The screenshot shows the FAA website interface. On the left, a dark blue sidebar contains the text "Airports & Air Traffic" with a white arrow pointing right. On the right, another dark blue sidebar contains the text "Environmental Issues" with a white arrow pointing left. The main content area is titled "Airports & Air Traffic" and includes sections for "Airport Status", "Air Traffic Information", "Airport Information", "Environmental Issues", and "Technology Improvements". The "Airports & Air Traffic" section lists various reports and documents, such as the "2006 Annual Performance Report" and "Air Traffic Organization (ATO)". The "Environmental Issues" section lists documents like "Order 5050.4B" and "Air Quality Handbook". The "Technology Improvements" section lists documents like "Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum (RVSM)" and "En Route Automation Modernization (ERAM)".



# Federal Aviation Administration

## [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov)

- **FAA Order 1050.1E – Agency-wide environmental policy on how FAA will comply with NEPA.**
- **FAA Order 5050.4B – Supplements 1050.1E by providing NEPA instructions for proposed airport development projects**
- **FAA Airport Desk Reference – summarizes applicable special purpose laws in one location for convenience and quick reference.**



# Federal Aviation Administration

## [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov)

- **Environmental Program**

- Contacts
  - Headquarters Contacts
- Data, Tools, and Resources
  - Noise compatibility and Part 150 info
- Publications
  - AC's, AQ Handbook, Environmental AC's
- Regional Supplemental Guidance
  - Breakdown of Regions



# FAA Western-Pacific Region

FAA - Western-Pacific - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Office of Airports

Address: [http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/airports/regional\\_guidance/western\\_pacific/](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/regional_guidance/western_pacific/)

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Western Pacific Topics

- Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
- Airports News & Events
- Airport Obligations
- Airports Resources
- Airport Safety
- Construction On or Near Airports
- Environmental Program
- Passenger Facility Charge (PFC)
- Planning & Capacity

**Airports - Western-Pacific Region**

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The Western-Pacific Region includes the following states:

- California
- Arizona
- Nevada
- Hawaii

**Airports News & Events**

- [Southern Nevada Region Heliport Draft Environmental Assessment](#) (Updated on 4/4/2008)
- [2000 FAA Western Pacific Region 4th Annual Airports Division Conference](#) (March 4, 2008)
- [Latest Editions of Western-Pacific Region Newsletters](#) (Updated on 2/29/2008)
- [2007 FAA/NTSB First Responders Workshop](#)
- [Airport Planning and Federal Environmental Documentation Workshop](#) (PDF)(September 21, 2007)

[More >>](#)

**Airports Resources**

- [Airports Forms](#)
- [Policy and Guidance](#)
- [Grant Agreement](#) (Updated on 6/12/2007)
- [Aviation Links](#) (Updated on 6/8/2007)

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**About Airports**

- [Organizational Chart](#) (PDF)
- [2006 Annual Report](#) (PDF)

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Updated: 2:34 pm ET April 4, 2008

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Federal Aviation Administration  
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FAA Western-Pacific Region 4th Annual Airports Conference  
May 7, 2008



Federal Aviation  
Administration

# Categorical Exclusions Extraordinary Circumstances

FAA - Airports - Western-Pacific Region: Airports Forms - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Office of Airports

Address: [http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/airports/regional\\_guidance/western\\_pacific/airports\\_resources/airports\\_forms/](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/regional_guidance/western_pacific/airports_resources/airports_forms/)

Federal Aviation Administration

Navigation: Aircraft | Airports & Air Traffic | Data & Statistics | Education & Research | Licenses & Certificates | Regulations & Policies | Safety

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Western Pacific Topics

- Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
- Airports Resources
- Airport Safety
- Construction On or Near Airports
- Environmental Program
- Passenger Facility Charge (PFC)
- Planning & Capacity
- About Airports

**Airports Forms**  
Airports - Western-Pacific Region

- [ALP Checklist](#) (PDF)(Updated on 02/10/2006)
- [Categorical Exclusion Extraordinary Circumstances \(Cat Ex EC\)](#) (PDF)(Updated on 05/19/2006)

Categorical Exclusion Extraordinary Circumstances (Cat Ex EC)

**Recommended Forms**

Title	Number	Download
Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration	7460-1	<a href="#">ASP</a>
Notice of Landing Area Proposal	7480-1	<a href="#">ASP</a>
Request for Advance or Reimbursement-Non-Construction	SF-270	<a href="#">PDF</a> , <a href="#">MS Word</a>
Outlay Report and Request for Reimbursement for Construction Projects	SF-271	<a href="#">PDF</a> , <a href="#">MS Word</a>
Application Package for Construction Projects	SF-424	<a href="#">PDF</a> , <a href="#">MS Word</a>

[Other Airports Forms](#)

Updated: 1:11 pm ET February 1, 2008

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1-866-TELL-FAA (1-866-835-5322)

Readers & Viewers: [PDF Reader](#) | [MS Word Viewer](#) | [MS PowerPoint Viewer](#) | [MS Excel Viewer](#) | [Zip](#)

Address: [http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/airports/regional\\_guidance/western\\_pacific/airports\\_resources/airports\\_forms/media/catex](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/regional_guidance/western_pacific/airports_resources/airports_forms/media/catex)



# Categorical Exclusion Extraordinary Circumstances

**EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES EVALUATION INFORMATION SUBMITTAL  
FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION OF AIRPORT PROJECTS**

**I. INTRODUCTION:** The FAA must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for all proposed airport development projects that require a federal action. Categorical Exclusions for various actions are defined in Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Order 1050.1E, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures*. The FAA is seeking information from the airport sponsor to be able to determine whether the sponsor's proposed airport development project can be categorically excluded from the NEPA requirement to conduct a formal Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Note an action on the categorically excluded list is not automatically exempted from environmental review under NEPA. FAA must determine if any extraordinary circumstances apply to the proposed project. The intent for this information is to informally document the agency's categorical exclusion determination. The need for this information is based upon the guidance in paragraphs 304 and 305 of Order 1050.1E see: [http://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/orders\\_notices/media/ALL1050-1E.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices/media/ALL1050-1E.pdf).

**II. APPLICABILITY:** Sponsors are not asked to submit information described below for equipment and vehicle purchases (i.e. Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting; snow removal equipment; security equipment such as computers, scanners, etc.); Runway/taxiway edge lighting and other electrical items such as regulators, control panels, etc.; Master Plans, Part 150 Studies, feasibility studies, and environmental disclosure documents, etc.

**III. DIRECTIONS:** The airport sponsor is to submit narrative responses to the questions in Section V below and provide supporting documentation to ensure the FAA can determine that no extraordinary circumstances exist. Sponsors are to submit this information only for proposed projects where they anticipate federal funding assistance within the next 12 months or if no funding is sought, for Airport Layout Plan approval. Please provide this information not later than 12 months prior to implementation of the proposed project to allow FAA to determine if further study is needed. Suggested sources for this information include, but not limited to, previous Master Plan or environmental studies and associated documents, Part 150 studies, or research. The jurisdictional federal, state and local resource agencies responsible for protecting specially-protected resources often contain internet web site information that will be of assistance. This information will also assist sponsors in complying with applicable federal laws, regulations, and executive orders as they relate to the proposed project. To expedite review, please include the headings listed in Section V, below, in **bold** in your narrative responses and address each heading separately.

**IV. ASSISTANCE:** The Environmental Protection Specialists in your respective Airports District Office are available to provide guidance and answer questions about the submittal of information to support a Categorical Exclusion and/or environmental resource categories. Airport Sponsors may expect a written response on the



# This is not a CatEX



# Air Quality

[www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/greenbk/](http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/greenbk/)

- Is the proposed project located in an air quality attainment, non-attainment or maintenance area?

- 1-Hour Ozone
- 8-Hour Ozone
- Carbon Monoxide
- Nitrogen Dioxide
- Sulfur Dioxide
- Particulate Matter 10
- Particulate Matter 2.5
- Lead



# Coastal Resources

<http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/>

- **California**
  - <http://www.coastal.ca.gov>
- **Hawaii**
  - <http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/czm/>
- **Pacific Islands**
  - <http://www.pimpac.org/>



# Department of Transportation (4F)

- **49 U.S.C. 303 Policy on Lands, Wildlife and Waterfowl Refuges, and Historic Sites**
  - <http://environment.fhwa.dot.gov/projdev/pd5sec4f.asp>



# Natural Resources and Energy Supply



- **Utility Impacts**

- Local utility companies

- Electrical, natural gas, water and sewage capacities

- **Consumable Materials**

- Local suppliers of consumable construction materials and aircraft or ground vehicle fuels

- **Aircraft Fuel Consumption**

- Would operational efficiency diminish, flight times increase, substantial increase in operations?

# Farmlands

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/fppa/>

- **Any airport development action funded under AIP or subject to FAA approval that would permanently convert an existing designated important farmland to non-agricultural use is subject to Farmland Protection Policy Act coordination.**



# Fish, Wildlife and Plants

- **Does project contain any federally endangered species or plants?**

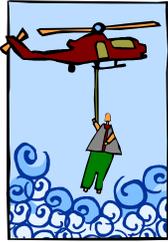
- <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>
- [http://ecos.fws.gov/tess\\_public/](http://ecos.fws.gov/tess_public/)



- **National Marine Fisheries Service**

- California
  - <http://www.swfsc.noaa.gov/>
- Pacific Islands
  - <http://www.pifsc.noaa.gov>





# Floodplains



- **Would project be located or encroach upon floodplains?**
- **FEMA National Flood Insurance Program**
  - <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodplain/index.shtm>
- **FEMA Map Service Center**
  - <http://msc.fema.gov/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/FemaWelcomeView?storeId=10001&catalogId=10001&angId=-1>

# Hazardous Materials, Pollution Prevention, and Solid Waste

- **US Code Title 42, Chapter 103 – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability (CERCLA)**
  - [http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title42/chapter103\\_.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title42/chapter103_.html)
- **EPA Region 9 Website (AZ, CA & NV)**
  - <http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/index.html>
- **Map Hazardous Waste Site**
  - <http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/eml>
- **EPA Enforcement & Compliance**
  - <http://www.epa-echo.gov/echo/>



# Historic, Architectural, Archeological, and Cultural Resources

- **State Historic Preservation Offices**

- California

- <http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/>

- Arizona

- <http://www.pr.state.az.us/partnerships/shpo.html>

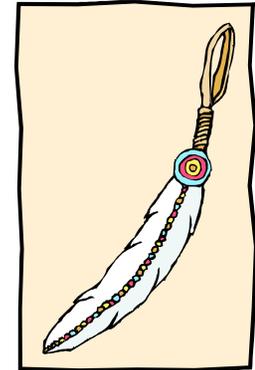
- Nevada

- <http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/shpo/>





# Tribal Consultation



- **Bureau of Indian Affairs**
  - <http://www.doi.gov/bureau-indian-affairs.html>
- **Tribal Historic Preservation Officers**
  - <http://www.achp.gov/thpo.html>
- **National Parks Service – Tribal Preservation Program**
  - <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tribal/thpo.htm>



# Noise



- **FAA Airport Noise Website**

- [http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/airports/environmental/airport\\_noise/](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/environmental/airport_noise/)

- Data & Statistics
- Regulations, Guidance & Policies
- Airport Noise Compatibility Planning (Part 150)
- Airport Noise and Access Restrictions (Part 159)
- Land Use Planning Toolkit
- State and Local Noise Compatibility Programs



# Secondary (Induced) Impacts

- Does the proposed project require relocation of any homes or businesses, or increase off-airport surface traffic congestion?



- Induced impacts will normally not be significant, except where there are also significant impacts in other categories, especially noise, land use, or direct social impacts





# Water Quality



- **US Code Title 33, Chapter 26 – Water Pollution Prevention and Control (Clean Water Act)**
  - [http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title33/chapter26\\_.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title33/chapter26_.html)
- **FAA Guidance – Airport Drainage Ditches and Section 404 Requirements (10/97)**
  - [http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/airports/environmental/policy\\_guidance/media/section404.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/environmental/policy_guidance/media/section404.pdf)

# Wetlands

- **US Army Corps of Engineer**
  - <http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/rw-bro.htm>
- **EPA Wetlands Hotline**
  - <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/wetline.html>
- **California Wetland Information System**
  - <http://ceres.ca.gov/wetlands>
- **Bay Area Wetland Tracker**
  - <http://www.wetlandtracker.org/>



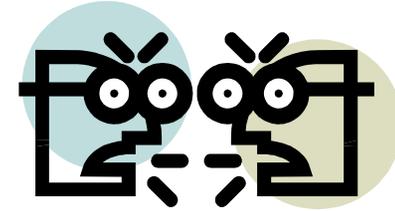
# Wild and Scenic Rivers

- **The National Wild and Scenic River System**
  - <http://www.rivers.gov>
- **The National Rivers Inventory**
  - <http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/nri>



# Other Considerations

- **Highly controversial?**
- **Organized opposition?**
- **Consistent with plans, goals, and policies of the community?**
- **Create a significant impact on the human environment?**



# Questions

