



Forest
Service

Washington
Office

1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

File Code: 1310-1/1950

Date: September 21, 2007

Subject: Request for Comments: NEPA Feasibility Study Findings

To: Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director, Deputy Chiefs and
WO Directors

REPLY DUE OCTOBER 26, 2007

The NEPA Feasibility Study Team presented their results to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) on July 10, 2007. Analysis included a review of associated NEPA and post-NEPA activities that are intricately tied to NEPA performance. The ELT commended the team for their comprehensive, high quality study.

A detailed data call and extensive analysis provide the basis for the report's findings. The final feasibility study report recommends ways to improve program efficiency and effectiveness and identifies potential savings. It also provides alternatives for getting the improvements, including Business Process Reengineering (BPR), Competitive Sourcing, or inclusion in the transformation project. The bulk of the potential savings would be realized by centralizing services and realigning NEPA positions into service centers, irrespective of the implementation method.

Recommendations to consolidate these services will also contribute to the Agency's efforts toward sustainable operations and a decreased environmental footprint.

The Deputy Chief for National Forest System recommends the program improvements be done by BPR to maximize flexibility and enable open communications throughout the process. A BPR would be coordinated with the transformation project to ensure the efforts are synchronized. I support all the study findings and request your comments on the proposed implementation method.

A hard copy of the NEPA Feasibility Study report is enclosed for your reference. Until a final decision is made not to compete any aspects of the NEPA program, some details in the report are considered procurement sensitive. That information has been redacted from this version of the report.

I look forward to your comments, and to discussing this topic on a regularly scheduled NLT teleconference.

/s/J.E.Hubbard for
ABIGAIL R. KIMBELL
Chief

Enclosure

cc: Jody H Sutton
Ronald ketter
Robert Rinaldi



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