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From: [Ronald Bounds](#)
Reply To: ronamsa126@yahoo.com
To: Mike_Murray@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Management Policies
Date: 02/10/2009 03:35 PM

Thanks Mike you have answered my question on tiered. thanks again.

--- On Tue, 2/10/09, Mike_Murray@nps.gov <Mike_Murray@nps.gov> wrote:

From: Mike_Murray@nps.gov <Mike_Murray@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: Management Policies
To: ronamsa126@yahoo.com
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 3:04 PM

Ron,

Sandy Hamilton at the NPS Environmental Quality Division provided the following information: CEQ encourages agencies to use a tiering process, working from broad, general NEPA environmental impact analysis documents to more site-specific ones in decision-making. When preparing a large scale plan that determines broad direction, such as the GMP [General Management Plan], information can be less detailed and site-specific, because decisions are made on a gross scale. When land identified as potentially suitable for development is planned for a set of visitor-related facilities, the decision to develop the area is not revisited. Instead, the NEPA document prepared in conjunction with the development plan proposal is "tiered," or procedurally connected to the large-scale plan NEPA document. This narrows the range of alternatives in the development plan analysis to those that explore how and where to site facilities within the designated development area. The decision to designate this as an area for development has already been made. Tiering allows NPS "to focus on the issues which are ripe for decision and exclude from consideration issues already decided or not yet ripe." Tiering is not the appropriate tool to use when you are dealing with a previous, broad-scale NEPA document that is outdated or for which there is new information requiring the original decisions to be revisited.

A practical example of tiering could occur as follows: We expect the ORV plan/EIS will identify infrastructure improvements such new ramps, parking lots, and interdunal roads, but the plan/EIS will not likely have sufficient detail about such construction to fully identify and analyze all the potential environmental impacts. Before those new facilities could be constructed, additional planning and environmental compliance will be needed. However, the "construction plan" could be "tiered" off the ORV plan/EIS because the general issue of whether or not those items should be built and where they should be built will have already been covered in the

ORV plan/EIS. In other words, the construction planning and compliance document would likely be quite a bit briefer and much less complicated than the ORV plan/EIS.

I hope this helps!

Mike Murray
Superintendent
Cape Hatteras NS/ Wright Brothers NMem/ Ft. Raleigh NHS
(w) 252-473-2111, ext. 148
(c) 252-216-5520
fax 252-473-2595

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To Ronald Bounds
<ronamsal26@yahoo.com>
To mike_murray@nps.gov
cc 02/09/2009 08:28
PM
Subject Management Policies
Please respond to
ronamsal26@yahoo.com

Mike I have a question for you. I was going through the 2006 management policie book to day and found a part in section 2.3.1.7on page 36 that is not clear to me as what it means.(The tiered approach to environmental analysis will be used as often as possible). Can you clear this up for me.

Thanks
Ronald Bounds