## PRO 400-b: Preparing an EIS

Use these procedures for projects with FHWA as federal lead agency.<sup>1</sup>

See also: EM Chapters 400- 460 Effective July 2022

**Start procedure:** Transportation project identified as needing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is assigned to Region/Modal Project Lead.

**Assumptions:** Federal Lead Agency determined; project classification confirmed with Federal Lead Agency prior to beginning the EIS preparation process.

End procedure: Issuance of a Record of Decision (ROD) or combined Final EIS (FEIS)/ROD, as

applicable, per 23 USC 139 (n).

Actor	Action
Region/Modal Project Office or Region Environmental Coordinator (REC)	Assigned project and reviews ERS/ECS database, project description, limits, schedule, and budget.
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>Contacts HQ Environmental Services Office (ESO) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Specialist about newly assigned project and schedules compliance strategy meeting. Refers to completed NEPA/SEPA Strategy Checklist.</li> <li>Sends memo notifying HQ ESO Director, FHWA Area Engineer, and FHWA WA Division Environmental Program Manager (with cc to HQ ESO NEPA Specialist) of Region starting work on an EIS. Email is acceptable method of notification.</li> <li>Creates a plan for file management. See TSK 400-ab7: Creating a Project file to Support the Administrative Record.</li> <li>Produces Compliance Strategy meeting summary.</li> <li>Major Action: Places a copy of the notification memo in the Project File.<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>
HQ ESO NEPA Specialist	<ul> <li>3. Coordinates on NEPA/SEPA compliance strategy for the project with the REC and project team.</li> <li>Logs project into the HQ ESO NEPA/SEPA Tracking Sheet.</li> <li>Refers to completed NEPA/SEPA Strategy Checklist.</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If FTA or FRA are your federal lead agency, the procedures will be different. Consult <u>FTA guidance</u> or <u>FRA guidance</u> for projects with these federal leads.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Assume throughout the EIS process, that all memos, notifications, documents, and correspondence noted in this procedural document should be saved in the project file.

Actor	Action
	<ul> <li>Reviews NEPA/SEPA procedures, NEPA Environmental Checklist (23 USC 139).</li> <li>Discusses HQ ESO role and anticipated services during the NEPA process.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	4. Develops EIS Project Initiation letter.  • Contacts HQ ESO NEPA Specialist for model scopes of work and discipline methodology memos to assist with EIS development (optional).
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>Schedules and conducts Project Initiation Meeting.</li> <li>Refers to TSK 400-ab1: Project Initiation Meeting to prepare for, arrange, and conduct the Project Initiation Meeting.</li> <li>Determines Federal Nexus and whether multiple Federal nexuses are involved. If multiple Federal agencies, determine which agency's NEPA procedures will be followed.</li> <li>Determines Legislative intent, Co-Lead agency (if applicable), key local, state, and federal resource agencies involved, and potential permits.</li> <li>Identifies appropriate tribes. Draft Tribal Coordination Plan</li> <li>Uses TSK 400-ab2: Determining What Discipline to Analyze to create a preliminary list for analysis in the environmental document and potential Discipline Reports needed.</li> <li>Reviews GIS data layers for the project area and estimate the potential extent and severity of key environmental issues. Map potential study area, project limits, and key environmental resources likely to be adversely affected.</li> <li>Conducts preliminary demographic analysis to identify minority, low income, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations that may be affected, document results, and draft Public Involvement Plan</li> <li>Drafts Purpose and Need statement, description of work, and logical termini.</li> <li>Identifies alternatives to be considered in the analysis.</li> <li>Coordinates with region/modal communications office to ensure adequate Section 508 compliance for all public documents.<sup>3</sup></li> <li>Reviews draft EIS Coordination Plan.</li> <li>Reviews draft Project Initiation letter.</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Public-facing project documentation discussed throughout this guidance must meet <u>WSDOT Web accessibility guidelines</u>.

Actor	Action
	<ul> <li>Major Action: Holds meeting; documents and shares results.<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>
HQ ESO Director	6. <b>Sends</b> Project Initiation Letter to FHWA.
FHWA	7. <b>Reviews</b> Project Initiation Letter and if appropriate, <b>enters</b> project into the <u>Federal Infrastructure Permitting Database</u> .
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>8. Invites Participating and Cooperating Agencies coordinated between Project Office or REC (state, regional, local) and FHWA.</li> <li>Refers to PRO 400-b2: Requesting Agency Cooperation for guidance.</li> <li>Identifies and invites agencies that may have an interest in the project to become Participating agencies within 45 days of publishing the Notice of Intent (NOI) (23 USC 139(d)(2)).</li> <li>Shares EIS Coordination Plan in invite to participating and cooperating agencies or share at Project Initiation Meeting, if appropriate.</li> <li>Major Action: Documents responses in Project File.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>9. Completes project management documents.</li> <li>Refers to TSK 400-ab1: Project Initiation Meeting for guidance.</li> <li>Establishes an EIS Coordination Plan, including a schedule, no later than 90 days after publishing the NOI.</li> <li>Develops a Community Engagement Plan.</li> <li>Develops a Tribal Coordination Plan. See WSDOT Model Comprehensive Tribal Consultation Process for NEPA.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>10. Prepares Scoping information packet. The packet includes:</li> <li>A brief explanation of what scoping is and how it will proceed.</li> <li>A draft Purpose and Need statement. See FHWA guidance.</li> <li>A brief project description and map(s) showing project termini and all proposed alternatives.</li> <li>A general description of known environmental impacts and range of alternatives, including benefits of each alternative.</li> <li>A list of specific issues on which comments are requested.</li> <li>A schedule for the decision-making process and completion of the environmental document.</li> </ul>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A project's NEPA strategy may change as a project team gathers information, and the scope of the environmental documentation may be altered based on this information. At any point in the process an EIS may be downgraded to an EA or even a CE, and a project team may need to reevaluate the NEPA process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See <u>EM 400.07</u> and refer to the CEQ NEPA Implementing Regulations <u>Section 1501.9</u>.

Actor	Action
	<ul> <li>An assessment of the potential for the project to meet 23 USC 139 (n) requirements for combining the FEIS/ROD.</li> <li>The materials should: emphasize that the preferred alternative has not been selected at this stage of the process, and encourage reviewers to identify potential alternatives, recommend improvements to the proposed alternatives, disclose environmental and social issues of concern, and provide information or analysis relevant to the proposed action.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>11. Prepares and finalizes draft NOI (including link to scoping information packet).</li> <li>Sends draft NOI to FHWA for comment and revises as required. See FHWA T6640.8A Appendix B for NOI content and guidelines.</li> <li>Provides final draft NOI to FHWA.</li> </ul>
FHWA	12. <b>Sends</b> NOI to the Federal Register.
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>13. Publishes a public notice in newspaper containing NOI submittal information.</li> <li>Publication of the NOI establishes a 30-day comment period on the Purpose and Need, Range of Alternatives, and scope of the NEPA analysis.</li> <li>The lead agency may decide to extend the comment period if warranted. (23 CFR 139(g)(2))</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>14. Works with Communications Office to plan scoping meetings.</li> <li>Completes demographic analysis to determine if translation services are needed.</li> <li>Develops presentation displays and handouts that describe the project and introduce the Purpose and Need.</li> <li>Contacts known local citizen groups and civic leaders to gauge public interest and level of controversy.</li> <li>Considers the location and number of meetings needed to reach target audiences.</li> <li>Posts Community Engagement Plan and Tribal Coordination Plan on webpage before scoping meeting.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>15. Conducts Agency and Tribal Scoping Meetings.</li> <li>Meets with cooperating and participating agencies, and separately with Tribes.</li> <li>An additional 30-day comment period for agencies is optional but recommended.</li> </ul>

Actor	Action
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>16. Conducts Public Scoping Meeting.</li> <li>Uses same information, displays, and presentations developed for the Agency Scoping meeting.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>17. Collaborates with FHWA, Cooperating and Participating Agencies to define the impact assessment methodologies for the project.</li> <li>Contacts HQ ESO NEPA Specialist to coordinate, particularly if non-standard methodologies are used (i.e., not listed in the EM). Consider using Scoping Comment Tool.</li> <li>Solicits cooperating and participating agency input about combining the FEIS/ROD, per 23 USC 139 (n).</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>18. Collects comments on draft Purpose and Need statement, range of alternatives, and EIS format.</li> <li>Organizes comments received, answers questions, and incorporates relevant considerations into project design. (Consider using Scoping Comment Tool).</li> <li>Sends revised documents to FHWA for concurrence.</li> <li>Reviews comments and determines format for EIS, per 23 USC 139 (n).</li> </ul>
FHWA	<ul> <li>19. Reviews, revises as needed, and when appropriate, concurs with Purpose and Need and proposed Range of Alternatives.</li> <li>Returns comments to Region/Modal Project Office.</li> <li>Confirms EIS format, per 23 USC 139 (n).</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>20. Develops screening criteria for project alternatives.</li> <li>Includes criteria that alternatives must meet the project Purpose and Need.</li> <li>Includes technical, economic, and environmental considerations when selecting screening criteria.</li> <li>Always includes No Build as one of the alternatives.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>21. Identifies range of alternatives to be studied in detail as a result of the screening process.</li> <li>Includes at least two alternatives and the No Build.<sup>6</sup></li> <li>Includes explanation of the screening criteria in the document.</li> <li>Includes discussion of any comments on the alternatives you received during scoping.</li> </ul>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> If only one build alternative will be considered, briefly describe alternatives considered and the reason they were eliminated.

Actor	Action
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>22. Drafts outline for the Preliminary DEIS (PDEIS) and Section 4(f) evaluation (if needed) and sends it to the HQ ESO NEPA Specialist for review.</li> <li>If the project meets 23 USC 139 (n) requirements for a combined FEIS/ROD, the PDEIS must identify a preferred alternative and disclose the intent to combine the FEIS/ROD. See USDOT Combined FEIS/ROD guidance.</li> <li>Comments and revises outline as needed.</li> </ul>
HQ ESO NEPA Specialist	23. <b>Reviews and provides comments</b> on draft outline to Project Office or REC.
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>24. Submits revised Outline to FHWA for review and comment.</li> <li>Addresses comments and revises outline as needed.</li> <li>Secures FHWA approval of outline.</li> <li>Provides a copy of the finalized outline to the HQ ESO NEPA Specialist.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>25. Conducts analysis.</li> <li>Writes Discipline Reports if needed. See TSK 400-ab2:         <ul> <li>Determining What Discipline Reports are Needed and PRO 400-ab3: Writing Discipline Reports, and request discipline report guidance for individual disciplines from HQ ESO NEPA Specialist.</li> <li>Topics that are not complex, significant, and controversial are addressed in the environmental document and do not require completion of discipline reports. Supporting documentation may be included in the appendix of the environmental document.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>26. Creates commitment file for the project.</li> <li>Identifies and records environmental commitments made during the life of the project (in meetings, reports, EIS, etc.). Recommend using WSDOT's Commitment Tracking System (CTS). See WSDOT's Environmental during construction webpage and EM Chapter 490.</li> <li>Describes methods to ensure commitments are actualized.</li> <li>Includes commitments in the file.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>27. Writes the PDEIS and Section 4(f) evaluation (if applicable).</li> <li>Follows format guidance if qualified for a combined FEIS/ROD, per 23 USC 139 (n).</li> <li>Document format should include Standard Publication Messages, and ensuring document quality. See Preparing</li> </ul>

Actor	Action
Actor	High-Quality NEPA Documents. The document is written, reviewed, and approved in sections.  Writes, reviews, and revises sections of the working version of the PDEIS according to feedback from ESO, and sends to FHWA for review and approval. The sections are reviewed sequentially in the following order:  Purpose and Need Proposed Alternatives Existing Conditions Existing Conditions Environmental Issues Mitigation Executive Summary Provides HQ ESO the opportunity to review sections as they are being developed. Addresses all comments, revises as needed, and reviews changes with HQ ESO NEPA Specialist before sending to FHWA for review. Reviewers should review the Comment Form Analysis Report to assure that common document issues are addressed during writing. This can expedite document review. Uses WSDOT Comment Form. Once all sections are completed, sends complete document to HQ ESO NEPA Specialist and FHWA for a general review of the overall document.
HQ ESO NEPA Specialist	28. <b>Reviews</b> complete PDEIS document and Section 4(f) evaluation (if applicable) and provides comments to Project Office or REC.
FHWA	29. <b>Reviews</b> and provides comments on the PDEIS and Section 4(f) evaluation (if applicable) to Project Office or REC.
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>30. Revises the PDEIS in response to the multiple review cycles required above.</li> <li>Addresses all comments from both the HQ ESO NEPA Specialist and FHWA.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>31. Requests a Federal ID Number from HQ ESO NEPA Specialist</li> <li>This step only applies if FHWA is the Federal Lead Agency; FTA does not use ID numbers on their environmental documents.</li> </ul>
HQ ESO NEPA Specialist	<ul><li>32. Gets Federal ID number for the PDEIS from FHWA.</li><li>Informs Region/Modal Project Office or REC of the ID number.</li></ul>

Actor	Action
Region/Modal Project Office or	33. <b>Sends</b> PDEIS and draft Section 4(f) evaluation as applicable to FHWA for review.
REC	If FHWA is Federal Lead, include ID number on cover page.
FHWA	<ul> <li>34. Sends PDEIS, including draft Section 4(f) evaluation as applicable, for review.</li> <li>FHWA review requires 30 days for a legal review, but this preliminary review may be granted a shorter review period.</li> <li>FHWA may allow concurrent reviews of draft if warranted.</li> <li>Distributes comments to Project Office or REC.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>Makes required revisions.</li> <li>Ensures comments are addressed to FHWA's satisfaction. This may require multiple review and revision cycles. The PDEIS becomes the DEIS when all comments have been addressed and revisions approved.</li> <li>Creates camera ready DEIS.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	36. <b>Requests</b> the <u>HQ ESO NEPA Specialist</u> to schedule a DEIS Signature Briefing with the ESO Director.
HQ ESO NEPA Specialist	<ul> <li>37. Requests and holds HQ ESO Director Briefing.</li> <li>Reviews PRO 400-ab4: Conducting ESO Signature Briefing.</li> <li>HQ ESO Director signs the DEIS.</li> <li>FHWA may attend the ESO Director Briefing, or a separate briefing may be held to secure FHWA's signature with ESO Director's consent.</li> <li>Returns copies to the Project Office or REC.</li> <li>Includes signed copy in the Project File.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	38. <b>Prints and distributes</b> the DEIS and draft Section 4(f) evaluations as applicable, according to the <a href="NEPA/SEPA/PEL Document Distribution Matrix">NEPA/SEPA/PEL Document Distribution Matrix</a> .
FHWA	<ul> <li>39. Posts Notice of Availability (NOA) in Federal Register (using EPA's eNEPA tool).</li> <li>The <u>REF 400-ab5</u>: <u>Notice of Availability</u> guidance may help with developing the NOA.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>40. Publishes NOA and Environmental Hearing Notice for the DEIS.</li> <li>The REF 400-ab5: Notice of Availability guidance may help with developing the NOA.</li> <li>Posts NOA in SEPA register and local and other applicable newspapers.</li> </ul>

Actor	Action
	<ul> <li>The document comment period is based on the NOA publication date.</li> <li>Includes copies of NOA and hearing notice in Project File.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>41. Holds Environmental Hearing on the DEIS.<sup>7</sup></li> <li>Schedules hearing 15 days after NOA.</li> <li>Comment period is 45 days (60 days if an Individual Section 4(f) evaluation is included in the EIS).</li> <li>Refers to TSK 400-ab9: Environmental Hearing Notice and WSDOT Design Manual Chapter 210 for hearing process guidance.</li> <li>Prepares a pre-hearing packet and sends it to the HQ Access and Hearings Section at least 45 days in advance of the environmental hearing.</li> <li>Collects DEIS comments.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>42. Considers and responds to all substantive comments.</li> <li>HQ ESO NEPA Specialist reviews comments and responses and determines if the project is likely to meet 23 USC 139 (n) requirements for the Final EIS Errata Sheet Approach and/or combined FEIS/ROD. See USDOT Combined FEIS/ROD guidance. If the project is likely to meet requirements, discusses options with FHWA and secures concurrence, and informs Region/Modal Project Office or REC of determination.</li> <li>FEIS must contain copies of the DEIS comments and responses to those comments, allowing FHWA to review them separately from how they might have been integrated into the FEIS (Step 42). The 23 USC 139 (n) allows use of errata sheets if comments are minor, responses are limited to factual corrections, and it describes why additional response is not warranted. See USDOT Combined FEIS/ROD guidance.</li> <li>If the EIS is amended in response to comments, those changes should be referenced in the response. Voluminous comments may be summarized or included in an errata sheet.</li> <li>Includes copy of comments and decision on environmental document format in Project File.</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The WSDOT Design Manual uses the term "Environmental Hearing," to differentiate the event from the many different types of public hearings conducted by our agency. The purpose, format, and goals of an Environmental Hearing complies with all of the requirements of <u>23 CFR 771.119(e)</u> for a public hearing.

Actor	Action
FHWA	<ul> <li>43. Reviews and evaluates comments and determines whether:</li> <li>Significant changes to the project are required.</li> <li>Significant new information has been provided about the project's impacts that have not been addressed.</li> <li>An alternative other than the Preferred Alternative is selected that a justification has been included in the environmental document.</li> <li>Additional study or Discipline Reports are needed and provides specific guidance to Project Office or REC.</li> <li>The impacts of the Preferred Alternative fall within the discussed impacts for alternatives described in the DEIS and if the current analysis is sufficient to meet current standards.</li> <li>The DEIS adequately identifies and quantifies the environmental impacts of all reasonable alternatives.</li> <li>Comments are minor and the Final EIS Errata Sheet Approach and/or combined FEIS/ROD format (per 23 USC 139 (n)) is appropriate. If not, Project Office or REC begins writing Preliminary FEIS (PFEIS).</li> <li>Major Action: Determines whether a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) is required. If so, see Step 57 for SEISs.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>44. Writes PFEIS or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD, per 23 USC 139 (n). Confirms FEIS format with FHWA (FHWA T6640.8A identifies three alternative formats for the FEIS).</li> <li>Completes additional analysis, if any, required by FHWA.</li> <li>Drafts the ROD and/or combined FEIS/ROD. For content and guidance see REF 400-b5: Typical Content of ROD. (Skip this bullet if you are not writing a condensed environmental document as referenced in the Combined FEIS/ROD guidance.)</li> <li>Addresses comments.</li> <li>Sends revised PFEIS to the Attorney General's Office (AGO) for legal sufficiency review.</li> </ul>
HQ ESO NEPA Specialist	<ul> <li>45. Provides and coordinates independent third-party review with subject matter experts and provides comments on PFEIS.</li> <li>Reviews the entire package and provides comments if a Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD are produced. See USDOT Combined FEIS/ROD guidance.</li> </ul>
Attorney General's Office (AGO)	46. <b>Reviews and comments</b> on the PFEIS or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD (if appropriate).

Actor	Action
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>Required for controversial projects. Optional for non-controversial projects. Consult with AGO if uncertain.</li> <li>May be done concurrently to the FHWA review with their consent.</li> <li>Returns comments to Project Office or REC.</li> <li>47. Incorporates comments into the PFEIS, or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD and sends document to FHWA for</li> </ul>
	review and comment.
FHWA	<ul> <li>48. Reviews and comments on PFEIS or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD.</li> <li>Sends comments to Project Office or REC.</li> <li>Project Office or REC addresses all comments.</li> <li>FHWA concurs that comments have been adequately addressed.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>49. Addresses all comments and returns revised PFEIS or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD to FHWA.</li> <li>FHWA concurs that their comments have been adequately addressed.</li> </ul>
FHWA	<ul> <li>50. Sends PFEIS and Final Section 4(f) Evaluation (if applicable) or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD to their legal team for legal sufficiency review.</li> <li>Takes up to 30 days for FHWA review. Time requirements will vary for other Federal Lead Agencies and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.</li> <li>When FHWA's legal staff determine the PFEIS or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD is legally sufficient, it sends written documentation to FHWA Division Administrator (letter or email).</li> <li>FHWA Division Administrator notifies Project Office or REC that the document is legally sufficient.</li> <li>Document is ready for signature as the FEIS (including combined FEIS/ROD, as applicable).</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	51. <b>Prepares</b> camera ready FEIS, or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD and requests HQ ESO Signature Briefing through HQ ESO NEPA Specialist for signature.
HQ ESO NEPA Specialist	<ul> <li>52. Schedules and conducts Signature Briefing.</li> <li>Refers to PRO 400-ab4: ESO Signature Briefing for guidance.</li> <li>Refers to Signature Briefing agenda for example.</li> <li>HQ ESO Director signs the FEIS (or combined FEIS/ROD).</li> </ul>

Actor	Action
	<ul> <li>FHWA may attend the ESO Director Briefing with ESO Director's consent. Otherwise, a separate briefing must be held.</li> <li>Returns copies to the Project Office or REC.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	53. <b>Prepares</b> final edition for publication.
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>54. Prints and distributes FEIS or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD and Final Section 4(f) Evaluation (if applicable).</li> <li>Distributes in a manner similar to the DEIS.</li> </ul>
FHWA	<ul> <li>55. Publishes NOA of FEIS or Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD and Final Section 4(f) Evaluation (if applicable) in Federal Register (using EPA's eNEPA tool).</li> <li>An environmental hearing is not required for the FEIS (REF 400-ab5: Notice of Availability).</li> <li>Comments received within 30 days of FEIS issuance will be noted and responded to in the stand-alone ROD, if applicable.</li> <li>Posts NOA in SEPA register and newspapers.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>56. Initiates a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) if a change of conditions requires supplemental documentation.</li> <li>Reviews <u>REF 400-c1</u>: <u>Supplemental Naming Conventions</u> which outlines the SEIS process.</li> <li>Follows process outlined in the USDOT's <u>Combined FEIS/ROD guidance</u>.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>57. Drafts stand-alone ROD (skip this step if a combined FEIS/ROD was used.)</li> <li>Refers to REF 400-b5: Typical Content of ROD for guidance on content. Includes responses to comments on the FEIS if any were received.</li> <li>FHWA reviews and comments on draft ROD or chooses to complete the ROD and provide WSDOT copy for review.</li> <li>Project Office or REC revises draft as needed and provides FHWA with revised Draft ROD.</li> </ul>
FHWA	<ul> <li>58. Sends revised draft ROD for final legal review (optional)</li> <li>Legal review requires at least 30 days.</li> <li>Collects comments and sends them to Project Office or REC.</li> <li>Project Office or REC revises document until FHWA legal staff agrees that all necessary revisions have been made, or FHWA</li> </ul>

Actor	Action
	revises the document and consults WSDOT concerning
	agreement on revisions prior to signature.
FHWA	59. <b>Signs</b> ROD.
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>60. Publishes NOA of ROD in Federal Register (using EPA's eNEPA tool).</li> <li>Publishes notice in local newspapers. See <u>REF 400-ab5</u>:         <ul> <li>Notice of Availability. An Environmental Hearing is not required after the ROD.</li> <li>Saves final ROD and NOA in Project File.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>61. Meets with FHWA to determine if a Statute of Limitations (SOL) Notice should be published for the project. <ul> <li>Proceeds with SOL Notice if applicable.</li> <li>See PRO 400-ab6: Legal Considerations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>62. Issues SEPA Notice of Action Taken (NAT) after a major agency action is taken on the project.</li> <li>Publishes NAT in the SEPA Register.</li> <li>See PRO 400-ab6: Legal Considerations.</li> </ul>
Region/Modal Project Office or REC	<ul> <li>63. Documents the decision by including the ROD and the FEIS, or the Final EIS Errata Sheet and/or combined FEIS/ROD and supporting documents in the project file and administrative record.</li> <li>See TSK 400-ab-7: Creating a Project File to Support the Administrative Record.</li> <li>Sends a copy to HQ Access and Hearings Office if an Access Revision Report (ARR) was conducted either prior to, or as part of the analysis.</li> </ul>