

# Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan Environmental Impact Statement

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# Southern Edwards Plateau HCP Environmental Impact Statement

- What is the National Environmental Policy Act?
- What is an EIS and how does it fit into the HCP process?
- What roles do the USFWS, permit applicant, Jacobs and CAC play in the NEPA process?
- How can CAC members help as we move through the NEPA process?
- What's Next?



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# What is the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969?

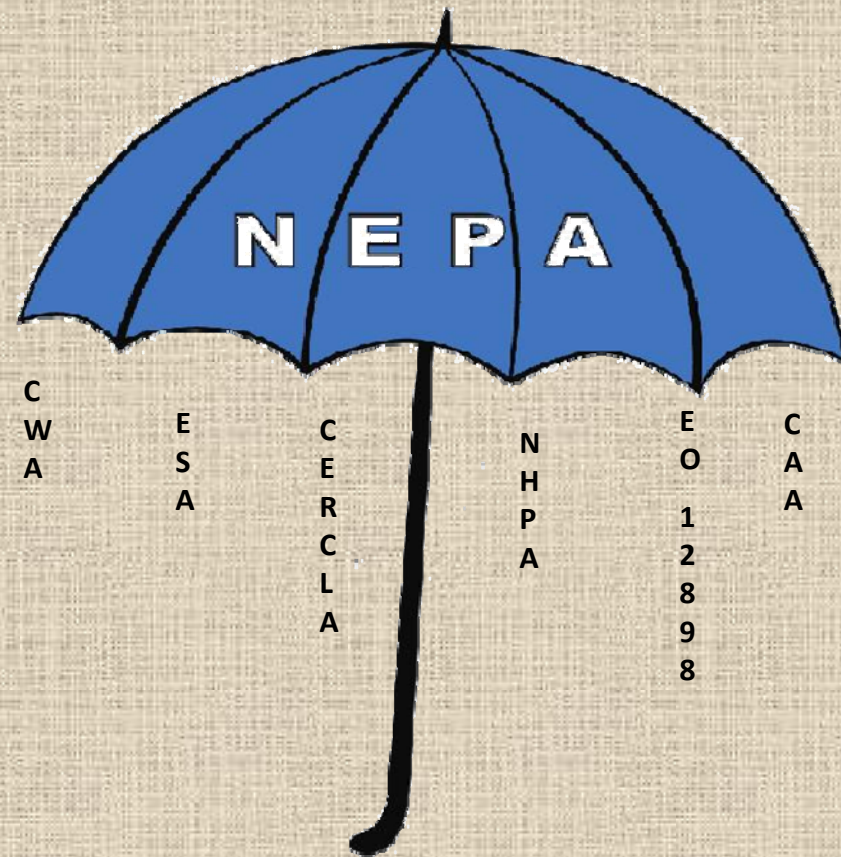
“...it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government...to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony (for) future generations of Americans.”



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# NEPA Process

- Notice of Intent
- Identify Purpose and Need (Goals & Objectives)
- Scoping
  - Identifying Issues and Alternatives
  - Public Involvement
- Alternative Analysis
  - Integrated Environmental and Engineering Analysis
- Concise Environmental Documentation (DEIS, FEIS)
- Agency Decision (ROD)



other local, state, and federal laws



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# NEPA Requires—Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

“...major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment...”



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What is an EIS and how does it fit into the HCP process?

Section 10 Permit Issuance is A federal Action



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# EIS: A Document that Captures the Project Development

- Summary
- Purpose and Need for Action
- **Alternatives Considered**
- Affected Environment
- Environmental Analysis and Consequences
- List of Preparers
- EIS Recipients
- Comments and Coordination
- Index
- Appendices



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# What roles do the USFWS, permit applicant, Jacobs and CAC play in the EIS?

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Lead Agency)
- Bexar County and the City of San Antonio (Applicant)
- Jacobs Engineering Group (NEPA Team)
- Citizens Advisory Committee (Recommend an Alternative)





# How can CAC members help as we move through the NEPA process?

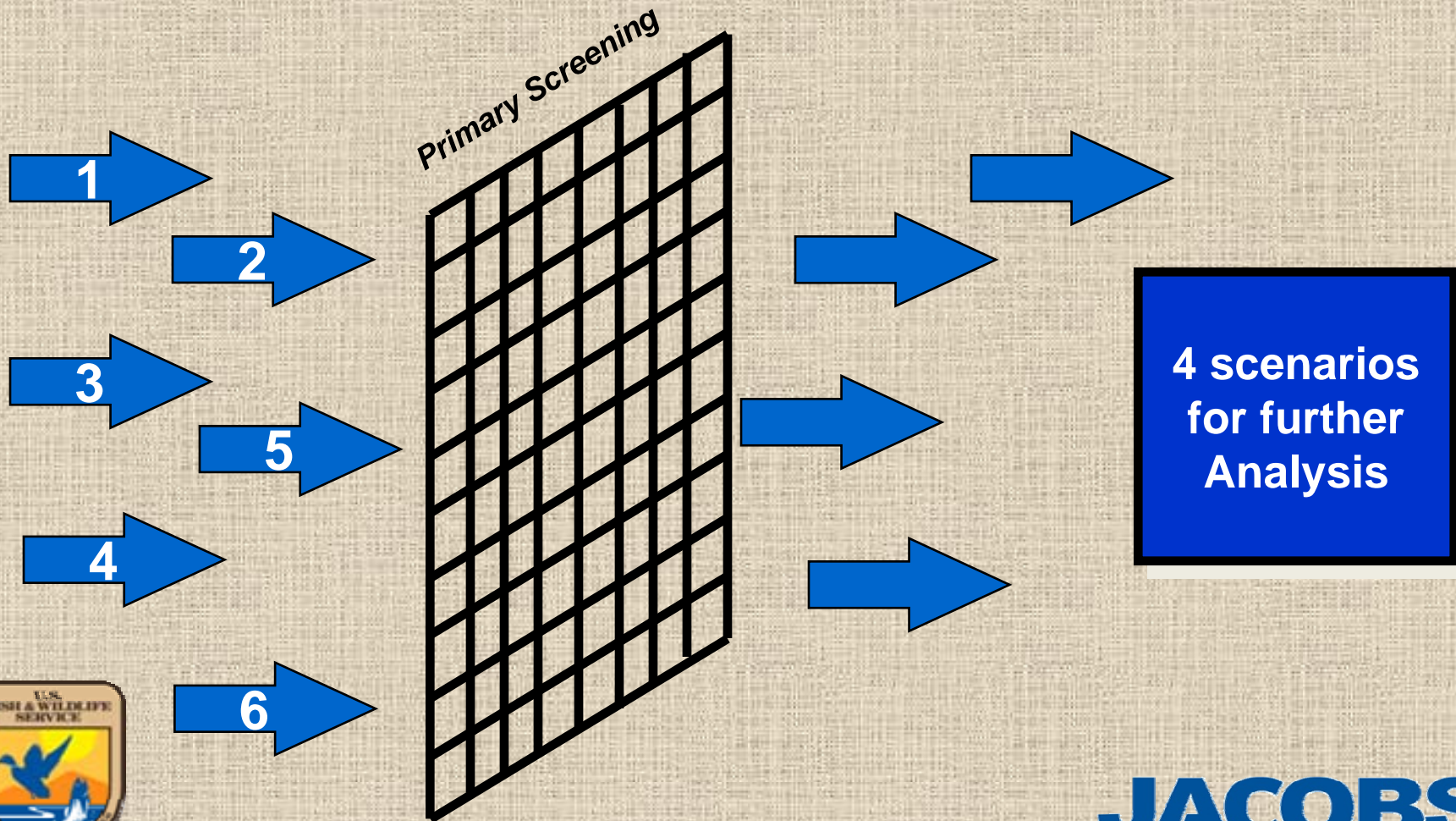
## Alternatives Analysis:

“...is the heart of the environmental impact statement” 40 CFR 1502.14



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# HCP Screening Process—Viable Candidates: Reasonable and Feasible



Reasonable  
& Feasible  
Alternatives

# NEPA Process Alternative Screening—Recommended

1

2

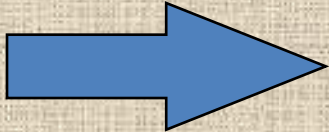
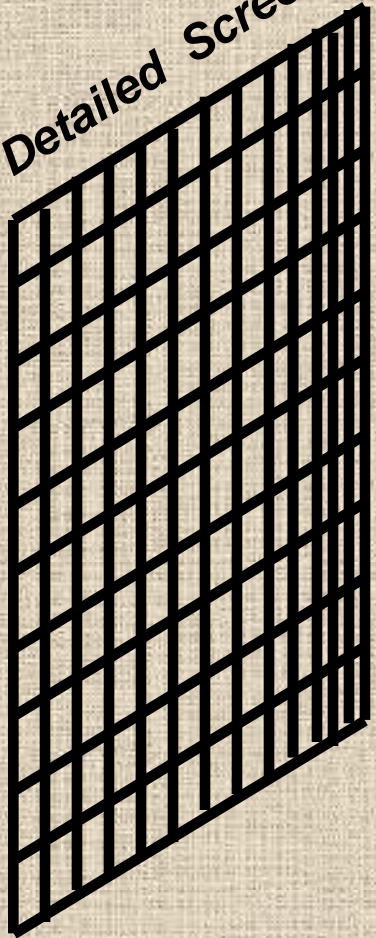
3

Others

4

No-Action

Detailed Screening



Recommended  
Alternative



er 1998

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# What's Next in the NEPA process?

- Public and Agency Scoping Process – tentatively planned for April/March 2011
- Identification of a Preferred Alternative – tentatively planned for May 2011
- Preparation of the Administrative Draft EIS— August 2011 and the Final EIS—July 2012
- Agency Decision (Record of Decision) September 2012



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Questions?



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