

NEPA/PLAN FORMULATION WORKSHOP



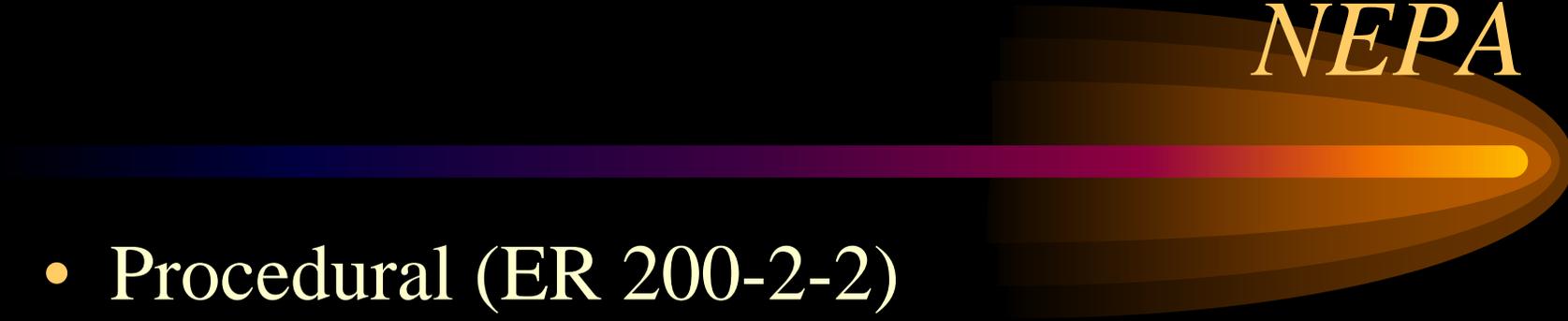
- NEPA Regulations and the Planning Guidance Notebook
- Comparing NEPA Process with Corps Study Process
- Incorporating Environmental Operating Principles in the NEPA/Planning Process
- Integrated Reports
- Q&A's

NEPA/PLAN FORMULATION WORKSHOP



- *NEPA Regulations and the Planning Guidance Notebook*

NEPA



- Procedural (ER 200-2-2)
 - Established a framework for integrating environmental considerations into Federal decisionmaking
- Full Disclosure
- Analytic not Encyclopedic

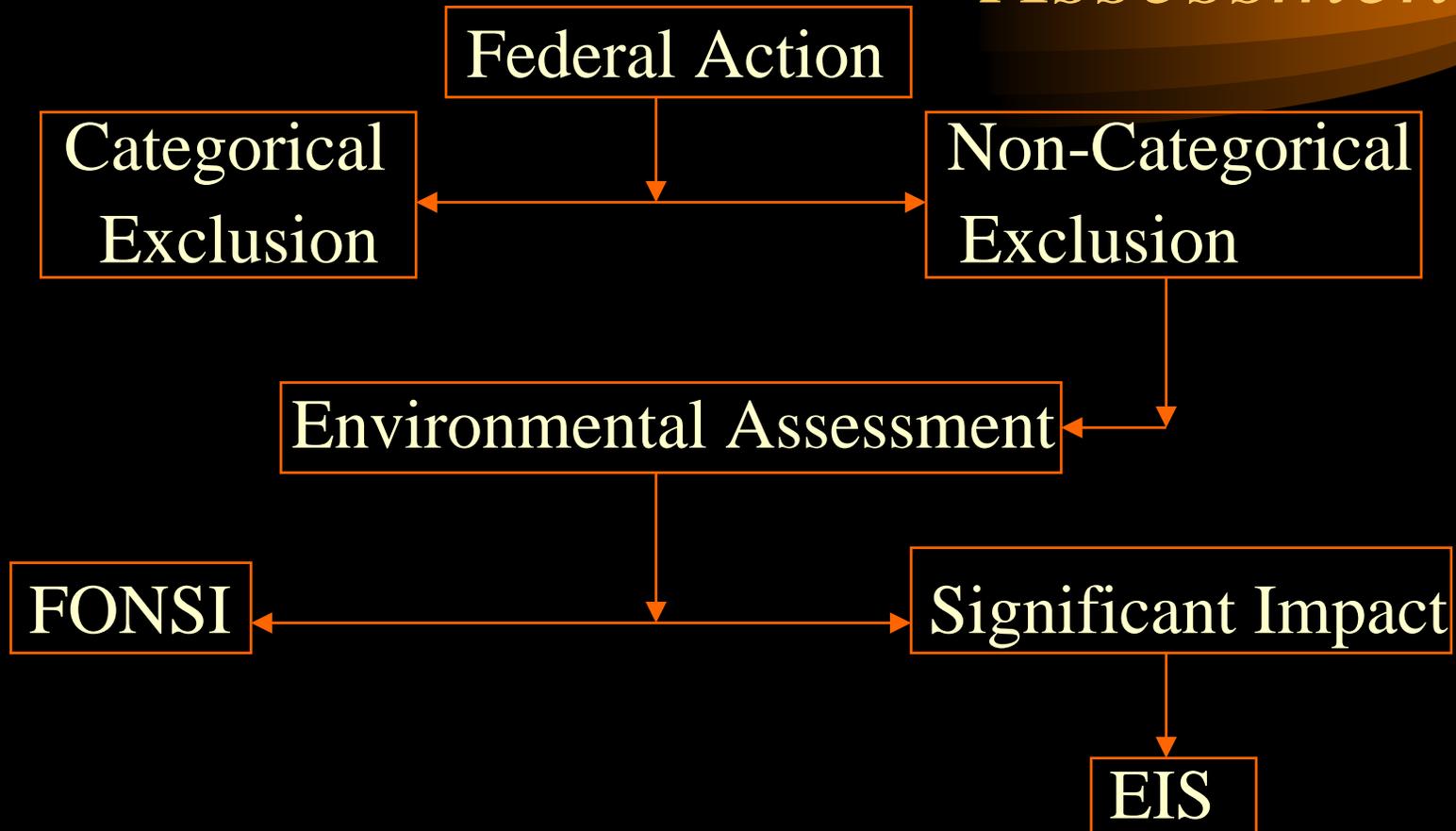
Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Council on Environmental Quality. 1978. 40 CFR

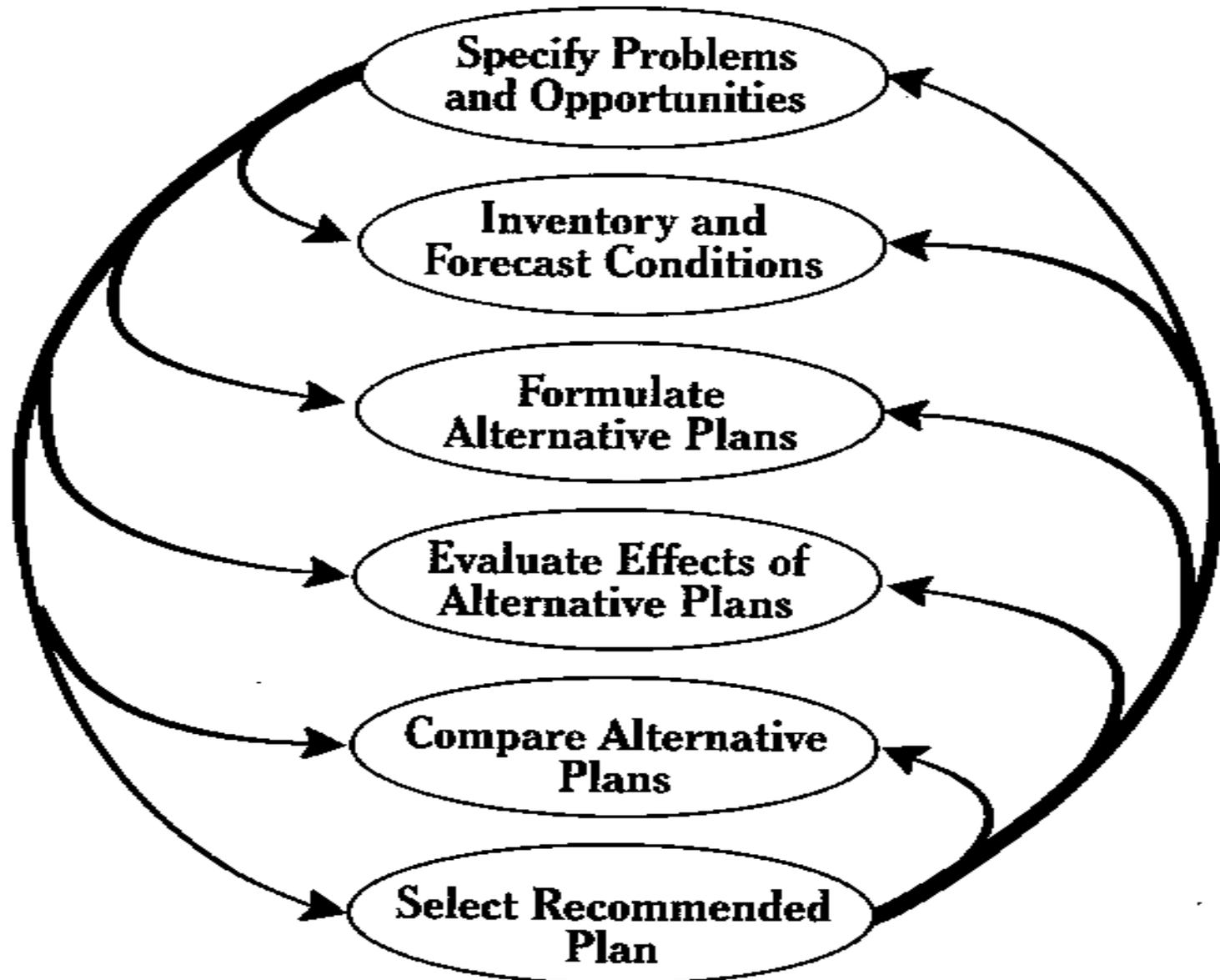
1500-1508

- 1500 – Purpose, Policy and Mandate
- 1501 – NEPA and Agency Planning
- 1502 – Environmental Impact Statement
- 1503 – Commenting
- 1504 – Predecision Referrals
- 1505 – NEPA and Agency Decisionmaking
- 1506 – Other Requirements of NEPA
- 1507 – Agency Compliance
- 1508 – Terminology and Index

NEPA PROCESS (Environmental Impact Assessment)



PLANNING PROCESS



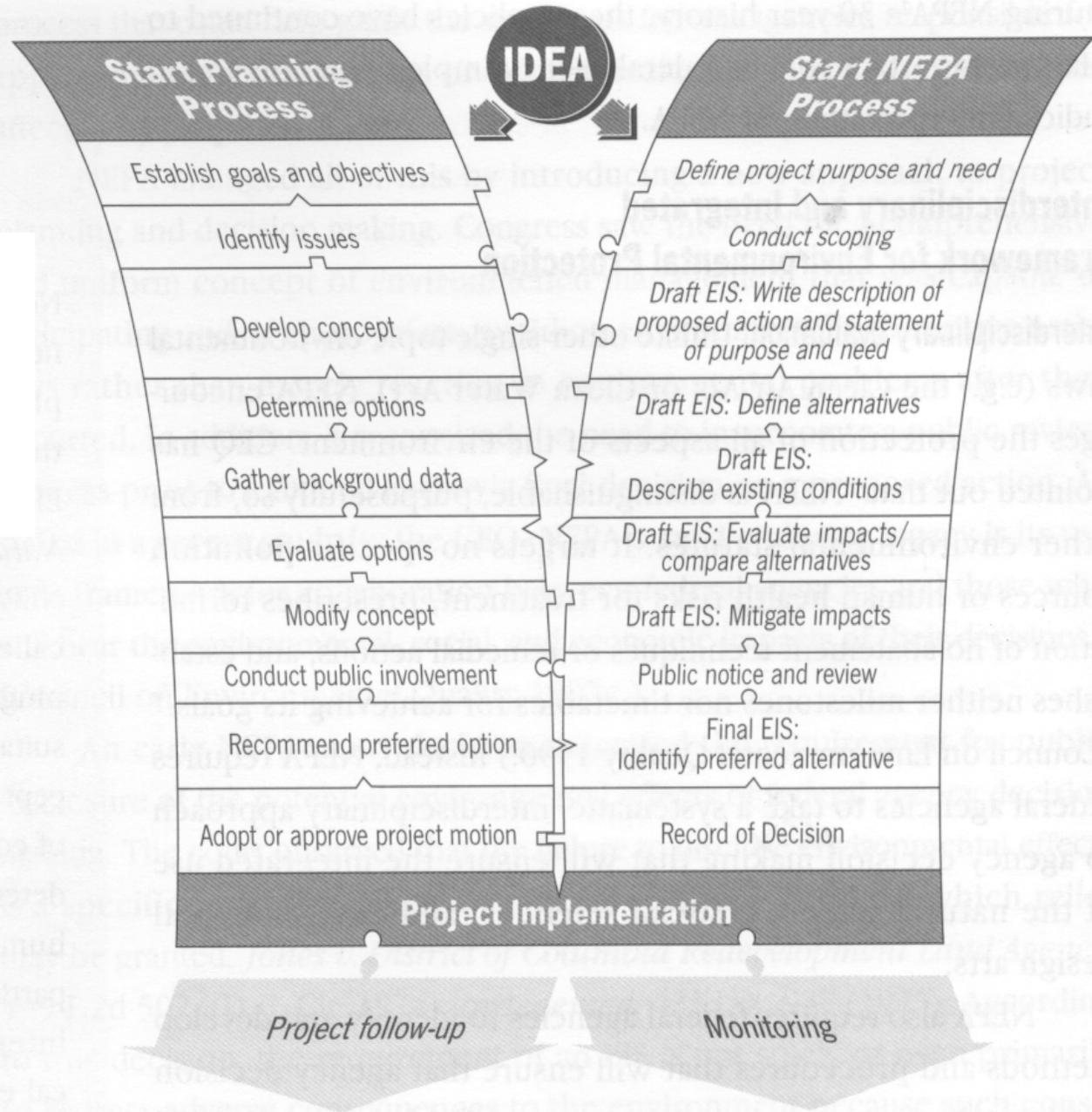
Comparing NEPA with the Planning Process



- Both cover essentially the same set of ideas.
- The NEPA regulations' EIS format and the P&G planning process are essentially the same requirements.
- Would we plan differently if either the NEPA regulations or the P&G were eliminated?

Figure 1-1
Integrating NEPA with
Agency Planning

This image came from: Bass, R.E., A.E. Herson, K.M. Bogdan. 2001 (Second Edition). *The NEPA Book: A step-by-step guide on how to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act*. Solano Press Books, California



...*PLANNING IS THE EIS*

PLANNING PROCESS STEPS	EIS PARAGRAPHS
Problems and Opportunities	Purpose of and Need for Action
Inventory and Forecast	Affected Environment
Formulation	Alternatives Including Proposed Action
Evaluation	Environmental Consequences
Comparison	Alternatives Including Proposed Action
Selection	none

Environmental Operating Principles

- Strive to achieve sustainability
- Recognize the interdependence of life & the physical environment
- Seek balance & synergy among human development activities and natural systems
- Accept responsibility and accountability for our activities/decisions

Environmental Operating Principles Cont'd

- Seek ways to assess & mitigate cumulative impacts to the environment
- Build & share information that supports our work
- Respect the views of others (individuals & groups)

NEPA/PLAN FORMULATION WORKSHOP



- *Integrated Reports; Why integrate?*

INTEGRATED REPORTS



- Encouraged by our guidance.
- Can save paperwork, time, and money.
- Can eliminate inconsistencies.
- Consolidates all information important for decision making in one place.

Integrated Reports Cont'd

- Requires planners to address and understand issues raised through the NEPA process (and vice versa).
- Can improve teamwork.
- Caution...Could jeopardize the independence and “checks and balances” between environmental and developmental interests.



Q & A's