NEPA Planning Schedule (2008 – 2010)

January 14 - 17, 2008 - public alternatives meetings, to be most useful workbooks should be received by January 31, 2008

February 2008 – analyze public input on alternatives options [completed to the point that a verbal summary can be presented at the Feb 26-27 reg-neg committee meeting]

March 12-13, 2008 – NPS interdisciplinary team meeting to review public input on alternatives options, start work on packaging alternatives [saving a place for the reg-neg committee consensus alternative], work on thresholds for impact analysis, work on developing the cumulative action scenario

Winter – Spring 2008 work continues on packaging and detailed description of alternatives [saving a place for the reg-neg committee consensus alternative], threshold development continues

Spring 2008 – first draft description of the affected environment, Chapter 3 of the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS), first draft impacts of the no-action alternative, economic/regulatory impact analyses study/survey design development including RTI (Resource Triangle Institute) trips to discuss with the reg-neg committee (Fall 2007 – Winter 2008)

Fall 2008 – Winter 2009 – preliminary impact analysis for all alternatives including regneg committee preliminary consensus alternative (may be several rounds of preliminary impact analysis on pieces of reg-neg committee consensus agreement as well as on a whole preliminary consensus alternative)

Winter 2009 – Reg-neg committee send to NPS the committee's recommended consensus alternative – (January)

Winter 2009 -- First internal review DEIS - (February)

Winter 2009 -- NPS interdisciplinary team roundtable on first internal review DEIS -- (March)

Spring 2009 -- Second internal review DEIS

Spring - Summer 2009 -- Camera Ready DEIS prepared

Spring – Summer 2009 -- Notice of Availability (NOA) for DEIS prepared and NPS / Dept. of the Interior approval process begun

Spring 2009 -- Draft and final Biological Assessment prepared [no decision yet on whether BA will be a separate document or whether enough detail in the right format will

be included in the DEIS (Chapters 3 and 4) on threatened and endangered species so that the DEIS can serve as the BA.

Spring – Summer 2009 – Draft and final Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determination prepared

Summer 2009 – Draft proposed rule prepared

Summer – Fall 2009 – Print DEIS (must await approval of the NOA), takes 3-6 weeks at the Govt. Printing Office, and distribute, publish proposed rule in the Federal Register concurrently with distribution of the DEIS

Winter 2009 – 2010 – Public meetings on the DEIS and the proposed rule

Winter 2010 – Spring 2010 – Public comment analysis on the DEIS and the proposed rule

Spring – Summer 2010 – Prepare the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) and response to comments on the DEIS and on the proposed rule

NOA for the FEIS prepared and sent through NPS / Dept of the Interior for approval

Summer – Fall 2010 – Publish / Distribute the FEIS

Fall- Winter 2010 – Regional Director signs Record of Decision (ROD) and a summary of it is published in the Federal Register

Winter – 2010 Final rule is published in the Federal Register