

# ADVOCACY LINGO

Protect Wyoming's  
Historic Places and Spaces

Photo courtesy L.A. Jansen

**NEPA** *National Environmental Policy Act (1969)*

Requires federal agencies to evaluate environmental effects of proposed undertakings and consider alternatives where appropriate; applies to actions that significantly affect the human environment, including protection of both natural and cultural resources.

**NHPA** *National Historic Preservation Act (1966)*

Created to identify and preserve America's historic and cultural resources & established the:

**NRHP** *National Register of Historic Places*

Exists to designate public and private properties deemed significant (and to encourage identification and eligibility even if not listed).

**ARPA** *Archaeological Resources Protection Act (1979)*

Created to protect archaeological resources and sites on public lands and Native American lands as part of national cultural heritage.

**EIS** (draft, supplemental, final) *Environmental Impact Statement*

Required by NEPA to analyze potential environmental effects of proposed actions or projects.

**EA** (draft, supplemental, final) *Environmental Assessment*

Smaller-scale analysis than an EIS; findings may determine whether a full EIS is necessary.

**FLPMA** *Federal Land Policy and Management Act (1976)*

Established a unified, comprehensive, and systematic approach to managing and preserving public lands in a way that protects the quality of scientific, scenic, historical, ecological, environmental, air and atmospheric, water resource, and archaeological values— administered by BLM (Bureau of Land Management).

**NAGPRA** *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (1990)*

Requires federal agencies and organizations receiving federal funding to return Native American cultural items to their respective tribes— federal grants available to assist with repatriation of items.

**ROD** *Record of Decision*

Summarizes the outcomes of consultations undertaken for an EIS or other analysis and presents a final list of mitigation measures that will ensure that adverse project impacts are minimized or avoided to the greatest extent possible.

**RMP** *Resource Management Plan*

Public process through which the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the Bureau of Land Management, and other government agencies analyze and make decisions and policies regarding use of designated areas.

**MOA** *Memorandum of Agreement*

Document created by two or more groups to establish cooperative work plan for a project of mutual interest.

**Section 106** *of the NHPA*

Requires federal agencies to evaluate potential effects and then give the Advisor Council on Historic Preservation the opportunity to review and comment on any actions that may affect both NRHP-listed and eligible properties and sites.

**PA** *Programmatic Agreement*

Agreement signed as part of the Section 106 process that specifies conditions under which a particular project can proceed in compliance with NHPA. Used for more complex projects; allows for more flexibility in terms than an MOA.

**APE** (direct, indirect) *Area of Potential Effect*

Geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character of use of historic properties.

**Cumulative effects**

Results of individually minor but collectively significant actions in the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future.

**Adverse effects**

When an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for an inclusion in the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association.

**Compensatory mitigation**

Restoration, creation, enhancement, or (to the degree possible) preservation of a site for the purposes of offsetting unavoidable, adverse impacts that remain after all appropriate and practical steps to avoid and minimize impacts have been taken.

**Off-site Compensatory mitigation**

Measures conducted away from the project site that create, restore, enhance, or preserve the functions and values of the site and its resources in order to compensate for the adverse impacts from project development.

**Scoping**

Initial phase of NEPA planning in which the agency involved seeks input on what aspects of the project need to be analyzed going forward.

**NSO** *No Surface Occupancy*

A fluid mineral leasing stipulation that prohibits occupancy or disturbance on all or part of the lease surface in order to protect special values or uses.

**VRM** *Visual Resource Management*

BLM system of inventorying scenic values and establishing management objectives for those values through the resource management planning process, and then evaluating proposed activities to determine whether they conform with the management objectives.

**SHPO** *State Historic Preservation Office*

Created by the NHPA to administer state historic preservation programming and activities.

**THPO** *Tribal Historic Preservation Officer*

Tribal officer appointed by the tribe's chief governing authority or designated by a tribal ordinance who has assumed the responsibilities of the SHPO for purposes of Section 106 compliance on tribal lands.

**For more information or help, please contact:**

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