

NOAA's Proposed Timeline For this Process



1. Scoping

NOAA solicits comments on the proposal; NOAA reviews the comments to determine the scope of the issue and to identify issues to be addressed during the environmental analyses.

March, 2013

2. Draft Proposal

If an expansion is determined to be beneficial, NOAA prepares and releases a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) that identifies boundary expansion alternatives.

November, 2013

3. Public Comment

Public review and comment on DEIS, proposed rulemaking, and related documents

February, 2014

Publish Decision

NOAA prepares and releases a final environmental impact statement (EIS) and related documents, including a response to public comments, with a final rule if appropriate.

July, 2014