DAY ONE: The first day of this training provides a high level overview of National Park Service (NPS) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) practice based on the 2015 NPS NEPA Handbook. Topics that will be covered include the legal and policy foundation for NEPA; the circumstances that trigger the need to comply with NEPA; and Council on Environmental Quality and Department of the Interior requirements. It will also cover basic NPS requirements and process steps for categorical exclusions (CEs), environmental assessments (EAs), and environmental impact statements (EISs). The relationship of other regulatory requirements to NEPA reviews will be covered in brief.

DAYS TWO & THREE: The remainder of this course will focus on improving NPS NEPA practice so that NEPA reviews are concise, focused, and timely. Key elements of NEPA reviews such as scoping, alternatives development, impacts analysis, public review, and decision documents will be discussed in detail. The course will also provide an opportunity to learn how the Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) system can be used to support NEPA reviews.

Course Objectives:

At the end of Day One of this training course, participants will understand:

- The role of NEPA in the NPS decision-making process
- How to meet NEPA's basic procedural requirements
- When to initiate NEPA reviews
- The importance of identifying the proposed action
- The concept of significance as it relates to the NEPA pathway
- How to use CEs
- The basic process steps for EAs vs. EISs.

At the end of Days Two & Three of this training course, participants will understand:

- The importance of focused, concise, timely, and legally sufficient NEPA reviews
- The detailed process steps for EAs and EISs, including:
  - Describing the proposed action and alternatives to it (including the no action alternative); and
  - The concept of significance as it relates to issues analyzed and the magnitude of an impact.

Participants: NPS staff in the Pacific West Region who manage NEPA reviews, participate as interdisciplinary team members during NEPA reviews, and/or have a role in implementing NEPA on a day-to-day basis in their parks/programs (e.g., superintendents, planning & compliance managers).

Dates: August 29-31, 2017. Class starts at 8 AM and concludes at 5 PM

Location: Henry M. Jackson Federal Building, 915 Second Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Travel Cost: No tuition. Travel paid by benefitting account. Lodging is $240; M&IE is $74.

Application: Application deadline is August 4, 2017.

NOTE: You must apply and your supervisor must approve the class in DOI Learn. DISREGARD NUMBER OF OPEN SEATS INFORMATION. All applicants will be placed on the waiting list once approved by their supervisor. Selection notification and logistical information will be sent by email on a rolling basis.

NPS Course Coordinator: Samuel Fox Email: samuel_fox@nps.gov Phone: 719-368-0690

For additional training opportunities, visit the Common Learning Portal.