

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



# Endangered Species Act Update



Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee

July 11, 2013

# Topics

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- Enhanced stakeholder engagement
- National Academy of Sciences review

# Enhancing Stakeholder Engagement

Docket ID Number: EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0442

March 19, 2013

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention**  
**Office of Pesticide Programs**

**Enhancing Stakeholder Input in the Pesticide Registration Review and ESA Consultation Processes and Development of Economically and Technologically Feasible Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives**

**Purpose of this Document:**

This document, which was developed jointly by the EPA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in the U.S. Department of Interior<sup>1</sup>, provides guidance to staff and managers participating in the associated processes. It does not create or confer legal rights or impose any legally binding requirements on the agencies or any other party.

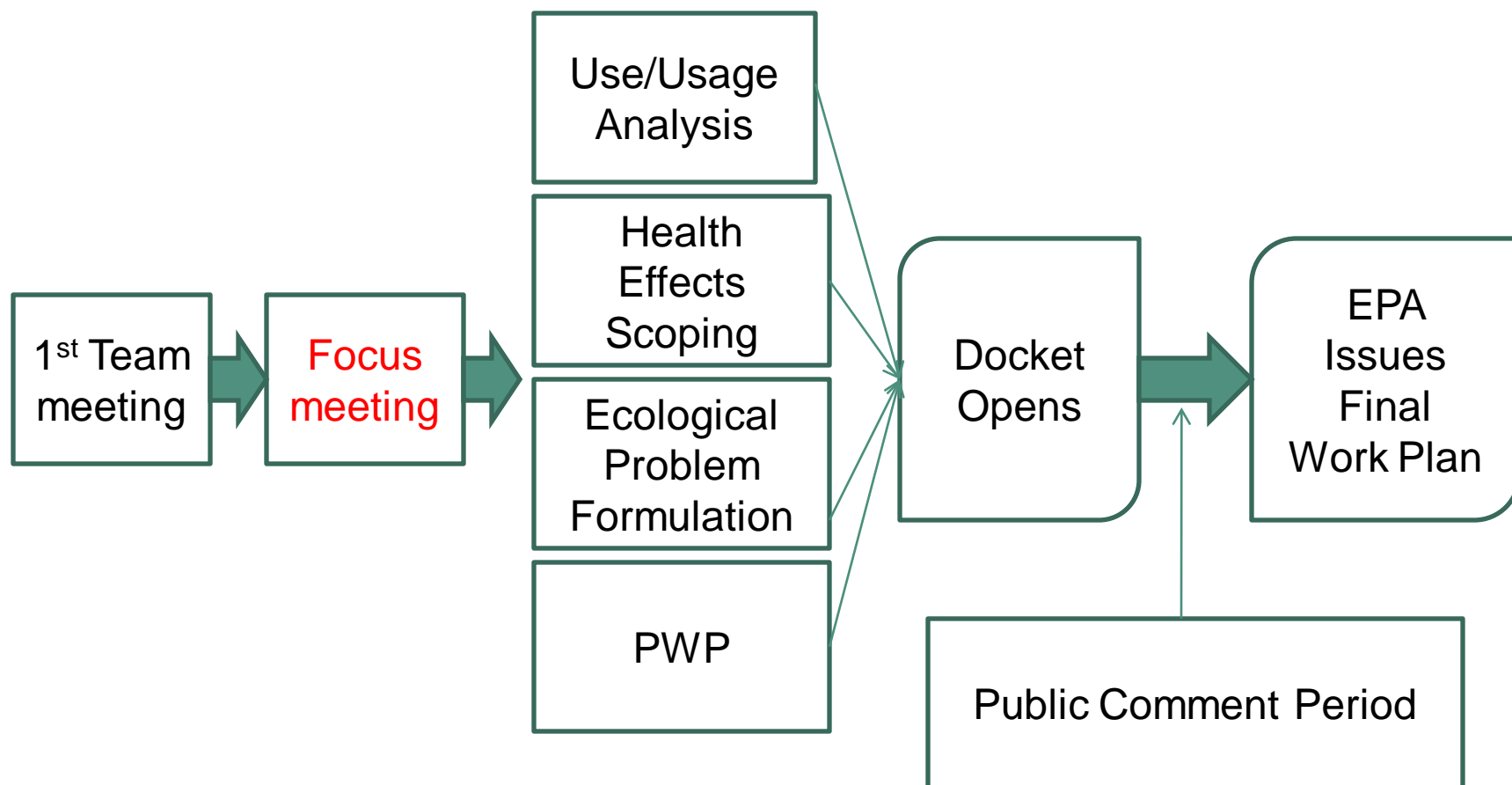
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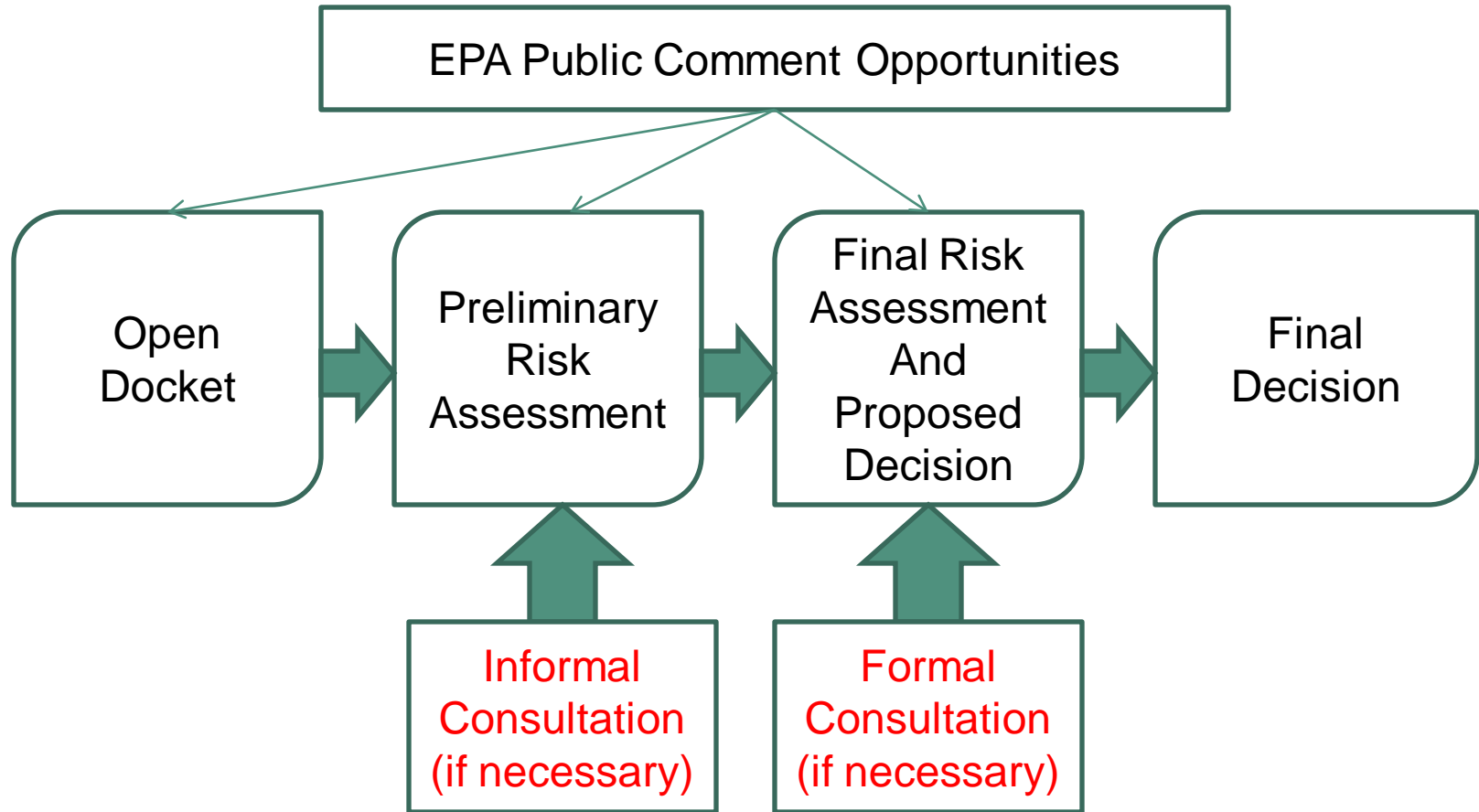
<sup>1</sup> NMFS and USFWS are referred to collectively as the Services.

- In March 2013, EPA, the Services, and USDA announced several changes to the Registration Review process

# Registration Review Process & ESA Consultations - Obtaining the Best Information



# When to Consult During Registration Review



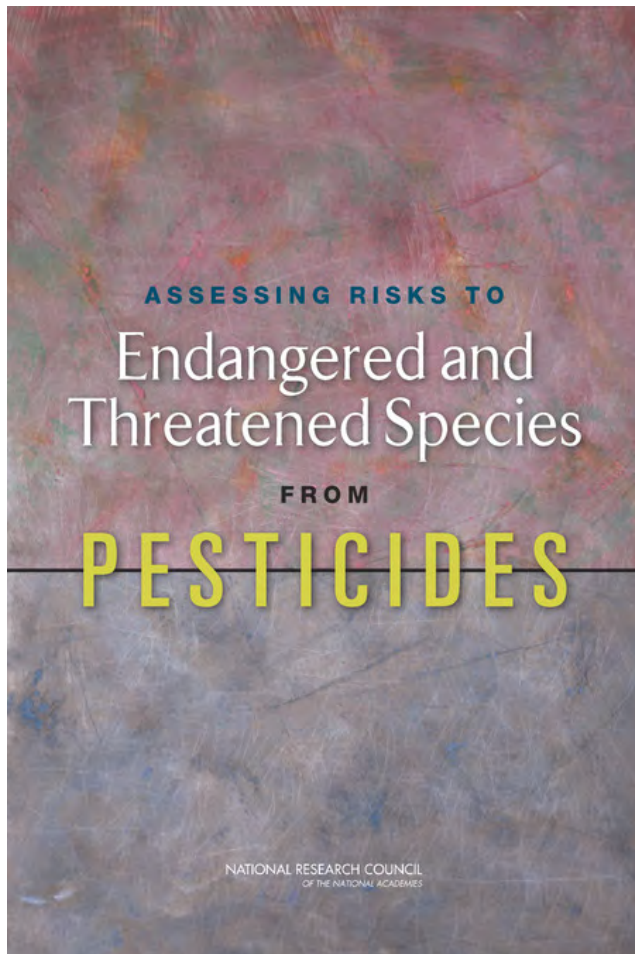
At all stages in the process, the Agency developing the document for public review will manage the public participation process and develop a response to comments document

# What is a Focus Meeting?

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- A meeting to focus on the information needs for consideration during the agency's registration review of a pesticide.
- An opportunity to address areas of uncertainty that may affect EPA's risk assessment and risk management decisions for a pesticide.
- The desired outcome is to acquire the information necessary to conduct high quality risk assessments that reflect the labeled use of the pesticide.

# National Academy of Sciences Report



- Released on April 30, 2013
- Developed in response to a joint request by EPA, NMFS, FWS, and USDA



# Implementation of the NAS Recommendations

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- EPA, FWS, NMFS and USDA met 4 times to discuss the report and to develop an implementation plan
- Workgroups of scientists from each agency reviewed all sections of the report and developed ideas for addressing scientific recommendations

# Working Group Goals

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- Develop a single, unified approach for evaluating risks to listed species posed by pesticide exposure under FIFRA and the ESA
- Agree on methods used in risk assessments and biological evaluations to streamline the consultation process
- Agree on schedule for implementation
- Build opportunities for our approach to evolve as we learn more, this challenging and complex issue will benefit from adapting when appropriate

# Conceptual Agreements/Guiding Principles

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- Use NAS report as our basis for moving forward
- Each Agency will revise some part of its existing process to improve future work
- Implement recommendations on a phased and iterative basis
- Early coordination with registrants and stakeholders during the registration review process (focus meetings)
- Agencies are implementing the stakeholder paper finalized in March 2013

# Path Forward

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- Agencies have identified timeframes (immediate, interim and longer term) to implement shared scientific approaches
- There are some recommendations and agreements that can be implemented immediately
- In the mid-August timeframe, the Agencies expect to develop a draft plan for implementing the near-term approaches
- Schedules for developing longer term, shared scientific approaches still need to be developed (2 years is the outside timeframe)
- Existing workload will need to be integrated into schedules 11

# Outreach

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- Summer 2013: Agencies will share the tentative schedule for responding to the NAS report
- Beginning Fall 2013: Agencies will describe the shared interim scientific approaches (e.g., immediate mixtures approach). These descriptions will be provided to the public as they become available.