

# Minimum Requirements Analysis

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and using the  
Minimum Requirements Decision Guide

# Wilderness?



OR



*“...in **contrast** with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape...”* Sec 2(c)

*“...provide for the protection of these areas, the **preservation of their wilderness character**...”* Sec 2(a)



# Prohibited Uses



4) “...except as *necessary* to meet *minimum requirements* for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act...”

# Minimum Requirements Analysis

- ❖ An MRA is **required** when a prohibited use(s) is being considered in an administrative action.
- ❖ An MRA is **recommended** when wilderness character may be adversely affected by an administrative action, *whether a prohibited use(s) is considered or not.*

# Minimum Resource Decision Guide (MRDG)

- Step 1: Determine if *any* action is necessary
- Step 2: Determine the minimum activity  
(sometimes referred to as the minimum tool)



# Step 1

Is *any* action necessary?

Describe the situation

Problem

Can this be adequately resolved outside wilderness?

YES

STOP

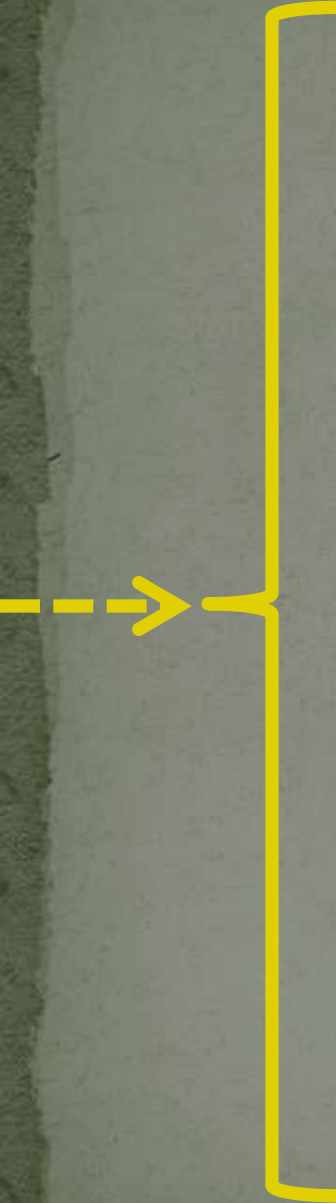
NO

Valid Existing Rights?

Other Federal Laws?

Preserve Wilderness Character?





**Untrammeled:** unhindered and free from modern human control or manipulation; free

**Undeveloped:** retaining primeval character and influence; without permanent improvements or modern human occupation

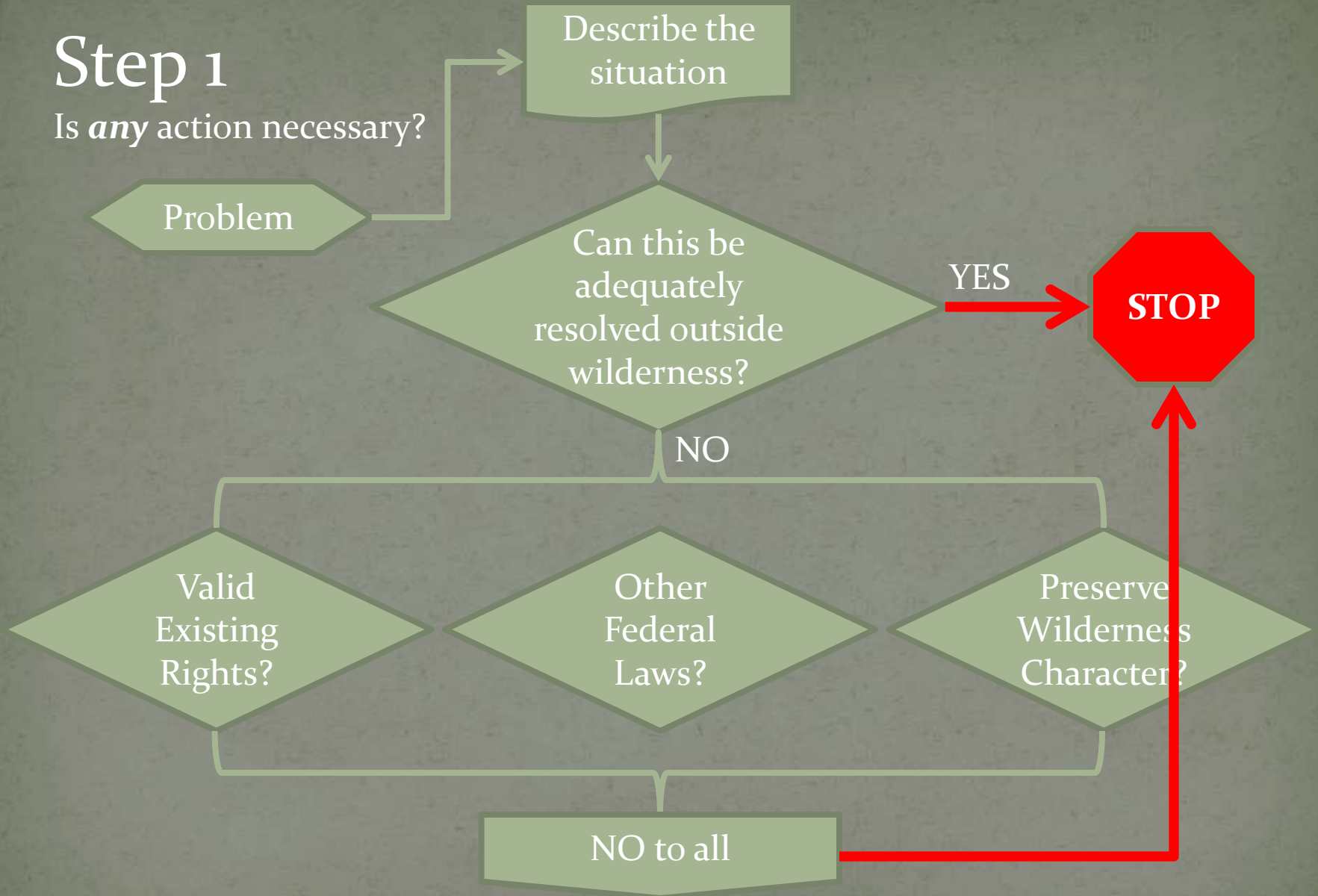
**Natural:** free from the effects of modern civilization

**Solitude or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation**

**Other Features of Value:** ecological, geological, scientific, educational, scenic, historical

# Step 1

Is *any* action necessary?





# Step 1

Is *any* action necessary?

Describe the situation

Problem

Can this be adequately resolved outside wilderness?

YES

**STOP**

NO

Valid Existing Rights?

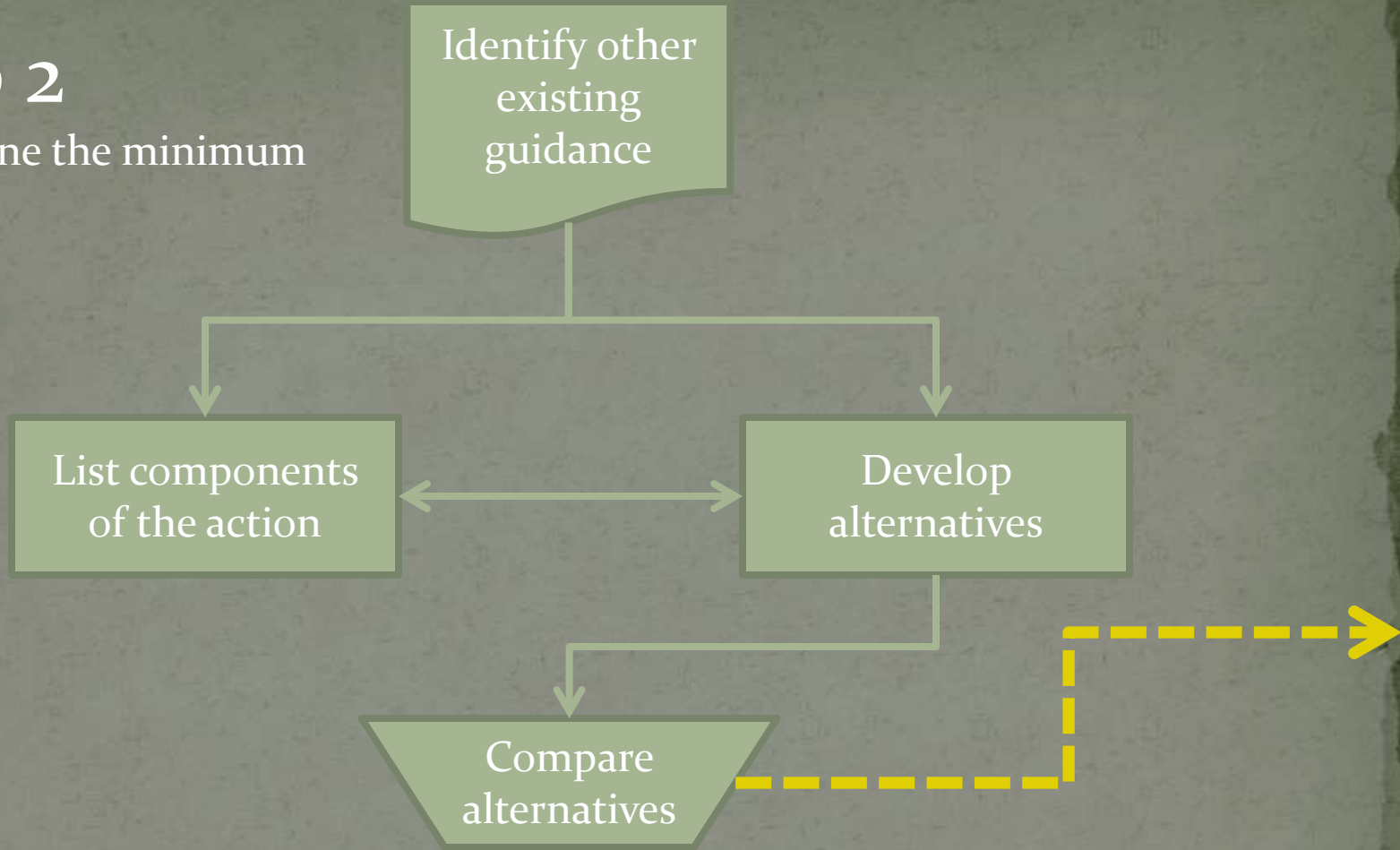
Other Federal Laws?

Preserve Wilderness Character?

YES to one or more

# Step 2

Determine the minimum activity



## **Wilderness character**

Untrammeled

Undeveloped

Natural

Solitude or Primitive & Unconfined Recreation

Other Features of Value

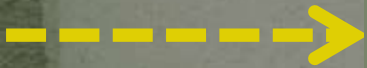
## **Other Criteria**

Maintaining Traditional Skills

Effects on Valid Existing Rights

Economics and Timing Constraints

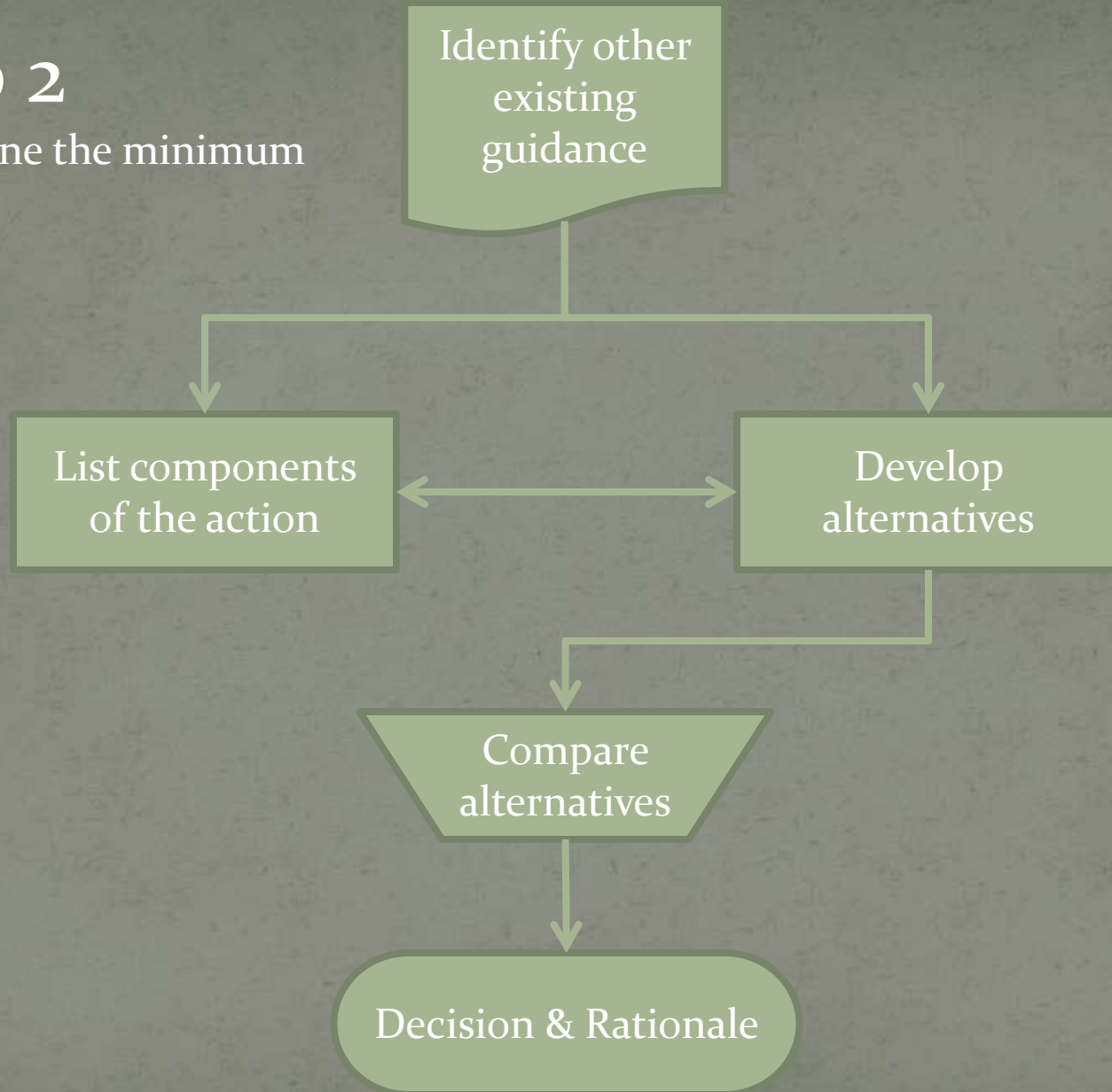
## **Safety**



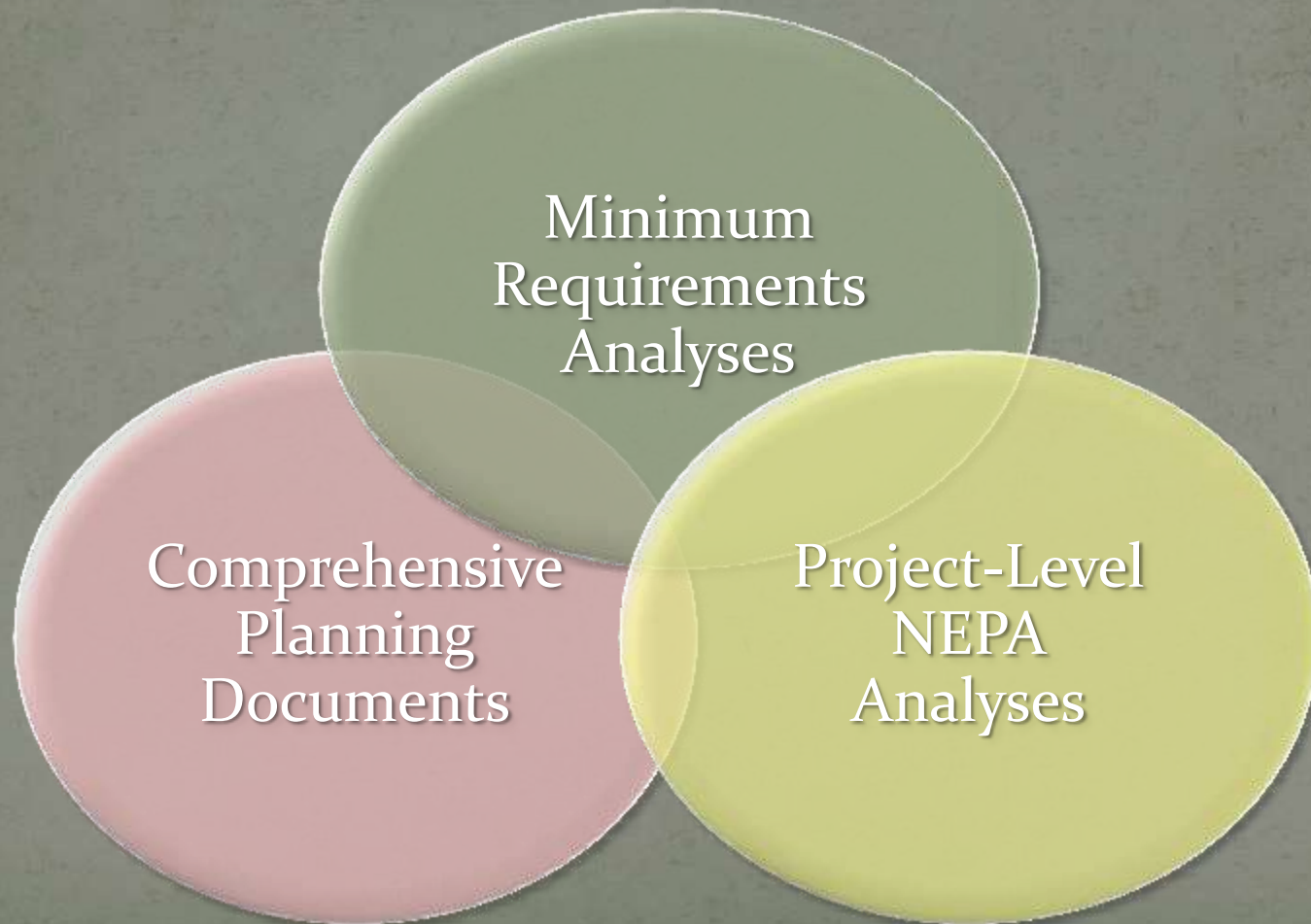


# Step 2

Determine the minimum activity



# Beyond the MRDG



# Common Mistakes

- Effects were described in Step 1, which is reserved for determining necessity.
- Confused the word allowable with necessary.
- Failed to properly evaluate wilderness character
- Complete range of alternatives and effects was not considered.
- Written to support a pre-determined decision.





for more help, go to:

<http://www.wilderness.net/MRA>