

REF 400-b5: Typical Content of a ROD

Guidance on preparing and distributing the ROD is in FHWA's [Technical Advisory T 6640.8A](#). For more information on distributing a ROD, see the [WSDOT EIS](#) web page.

The following section must be included in the ROD.

- **Decision** – Identify the selected alternative. Refer to the FEIS (or supplement) to avoid repetition.
- **Alternatives Considered** – Briefly describe each alternative (with reference to the FEIS, as above). Explain and discuss the balancing of values underlying the decision. Identify the environmentally preferred alternative(s) or explain why another alternative is chosen.
 - If the least environmentally preferred alternative was not selected, clearly state the reason why it was not selected.
 - The values (social, economic, environmental, cost, safety, traffic, community planning, etc.) deciding the preferred alternative should be clearly identified. Describe each value and the reasons why some values were more important than others.
 - The ROD should reflect the manner in which these values were considered in arriving at the decision.
 - If Section 4(f) property is used, summarize the Section 4(f) evaluation and influence on the decision.
- **Measures to Minimize Harm** – Describe all measures to minimize environmental harm that have been adopted for the proposed action. State whether all practicable measures to minimize environmental harm have been incorporated into the decision, and if not, why.
- **Monitoring or Enforcement Program** – Describe any monitoring or enforcement program that has been adopted for the specific mitigation measures outlined in the FEIS.
- **Comments** – Include all substantive comments and responses received on the FEIS. Other comments should be summarized and responses provided where appropriate.
- **Commitment List** – Include an item-by-item list of environmental commitments and mitigation measures from the commitment file. The list serves as a ready reference for the design, construction, and maintenance of the project (see Chapter 490).
 - Note: this is not part of the FHWA ROD guidance but is an important consolidation of commitments used for WSDOT project compliance.