



FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS GREENSHEET FEMA-4285-DR-NC



INTRODUCTION

FEMA's Environmental & Historic Preservation (EHP) Specialists are available to assist subgrantees in gathering current environmental and cultural information for informed decision-making during project development and implementation. FEMA is responsible for ensuring that numerous state and Federal environmental and historic preservation laws and Executive Orders (EOs) are or will be met in order to provide project funding.

Early identification of projects having potential EHP compliance issues and coordination with appropriate Federal, State, and Local regulatory agencies is needed to prevent delays in the review, approval, and funding projects.

Failure to comply with Federal, state, and local EHP laws, executive orders, regulations, permit conditions, etc., including those not specifically mentioned in this document, may jeopardize FEMA's ability to fund a project, and in some cases may involve civil and even criminal penalties. Compliance with EHP requirements should be addressed during every stage of project development, review, and closeout.

EVEN IF A PROJECT IS BACK TO PRE-DISASTER CONDITION there are circumstances when actions initiated or completed prior to EHP review may jeopardize FEMA funding. Common examples include projects:

- Affecting beaches, rivers, lakes, canals, wetlands, or other bodies of water;
- Affecting a 100-year floodplain, or critical facilities in the 500-year floodplain;
- Affecting structures that are 50 years or older, historic or potentially historic places, (including State and National landmarks of any age) or projects that may affect archaeological resources (change in footprint or work in undisturbed ground);
- Have known or suspected environmental concerns including clean-up or disposal of hazardous materials;
- Located in environmentally sensitive areas such as parks, preserves, near endangered species or their habitat;
- Involving debris staging and disposal (sites must be authorized by North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NC DEQ) Division of Waste Management);
- Involving Improved or Alternate projects, Hazard Mitigation, Scope of Work (SOW) changes.



Federal Laws

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- Clean Water Act (CWA)
- Executive Order for Floodplains (EO 11988)
- Executive Order for Wetlands (EO 11990)

Project types that may require consultation

- Changes in scope of work
- Ground disturbance, even within the right of way
- Facilities 50 years old or older
- Debris removal
- Improved or alternate projects
- Any hazard mitigation



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Waterways, Including Culverts and Bridges

Permits may be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), Division of Water Resources office.

Projects that may require permits include:

- work proposed in a waterway, including tributaries, wetlands, small streams and lakes

Actions that may require permits, include but are not limited to:

- construction and demolition
- Dredging, filling any part of surface water
- repairing or replacing a bridge, culvert or dam



Obtaining permits prior to construction is the responsibility of the project applicant



Floodplains and Wetlands

- any modifications or construction in a floodplain or wetland must be reviewed by FEMA and may require a public notice
- debris must not be stored in a floodway, floodplain or wetland, even temporarily
- debris removal from a wetland must be coordinated with USACE, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and NCDEQ, Division of Water Resources
- for information on floodplain permitting, contact your local National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator

Threatened and Endangered Species

The Applicant and FEMA may be required to complete consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the NC DEQ Wildlife Resources Commission for projects that affect:

- critical habitat, which may be located in or near water, forested areas, fields, or along the road edge
- endangered or threatened species within a county (listed on USFWS and NCDEQ websites)



Historic and Archaeological Resources

FEMA may be required to complete consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office or tribes prior to any work beginning for projects including, but not limited to:

- repair or demolition of structures or buildings built before 1965
- ground disturbing activities including projects in farmland, parking lots, or forested areas
- use of borrow pits or sand sources

Debris Disposal and Hazardous Materials

FEMA and NCDEQ must be informed of the final location of debris

Staging areas will require site approval from your regional NCDEQ office

Demolition of structures, regardless of asbestos content, must be coordinated with your regional NCDEQ office

Before burning, you must obtain a burn permit from the NCDEQ Division of Forestry and contact your local Division of Air Quality regional office.

<http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/waste-management-permit-guidance/solid-waste-section/disaster-debris>

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Debris removal includes:

- clearance
- collection
- staging
- removal
- disposal

Types of debris:

- trees and gravel
- building components
- wreckage
- white goods
- hazardous waste

The applicant is responsible for coordinating with NCDEQ and for obtaining and complying with all required permits before burning, salvaging or disposing of flood debris.

Contacts

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NORTH CAROLINA AGENCIES

NC Emergency Management

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National Flood Insurance Program

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919-825-2317 or 919-715-5711

NC Department of Environmental Quality

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Disaster Recovery Efforts
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Contact your local regional office <http://deq.nc.gov/contact/regional-offices>

Division of Air Quality

Contact your local regional office <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/air-quality>

Division of Waste Management

<http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management>

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910-433-3349

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826-296-4702

Division of Water Resources

<http://deq.nc.gov/permits-regulations/denr-forms/division-of-water-resources>

Wildlife Resources Commission

<http://www.ncwildlife.org>

North Carolina Forest Service

Burn Permits: Contact County Ranger or apply online: ncforestservice.gov/burn_permits/burn_permits_main.htm
919-857-4801

Asbestos information: <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/asbestos/ahmp.html>

State Historic Preservation Office

<http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/>

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Natural Resources Conservation Service

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United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

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