

(2) Preserving historic, cultural and natural aspects of national heritage and maintaining, wherever possible, an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice;

(3) Achieving a balance between resource use and development within the sustained carrying capacity of the ecosystem involved; and

(4) Enhancing the quality of renewable resources and working toward the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

(b) *FEMA shall:*

(1) Assess environmental consequences of FEMA actions in accordance with §§10.9 and 10.10 of this part and parts 1500 through 1508 of the CEQ regulations;

(2) Use a systematic, interdisciplinary approach that will ensure the integrated use of the natural and social sciences, and environmental considerations, in planning and decisionmaking where there is a potential for significant environmental impact;

(3) Ensure that presently unmeasured environmental amenities are considered in the decisionmaking process;

(4) Consider reasonable alternatives to recommended courses of action in any proposal that involves conflicts concerning alternative uses of resources; and

(5) Make available to States, counties, municipalities, institutions and individuals advice and information useful in restoring, maintaining, and enhancing the quality of the environment.

### Subpart B—Agency Implementing Procedures

#### § 10.5 Responsibilities.

(a) *The Regional Directors shall,* for each action not categorically excluded from this regulation and falling within their respective jurisdictions:

(1) Prepare an environmental assessment and submit such assessment to the Environmental Officer and the Office of General Counsel (OGC);

(2) Prepare a finding of no significant impact, or prepare an environmental impact statement;

(3) Coordinate and provide information regarding environmental review with applicants for FEMA assistance;

(4) Prepare and maintain an administrative record for each proposal that is determined to be categorically excluded from this regulation;

(5) Involve environmental agencies, applicants, and the public to the extent practicable in preparing environmental assessments;

(6) Prepare, as required, a supplement to either the draft or final environmental impact statement;

(7) Circulate draft and final environmental impact statements;

(8) Ensure that decisions are made in accordance with the policies and procedures of NEPA and this part, and prepare a concise public record of such decisions;

(9) Consider mitigating measures to avoid or minimize environmental harm, and, in particular, harm to and within floodplains and wetlands; and

(10) Review and comment upon, as appropriate, environmental assessments and impact statements of other Federal agencies and of State and local entities within their respective regions.

(b) *The Environmental Officer shall:*

(1) Determine, on the basis of the environmental assessment whether an environmental impact statement is required, or whether a finding of no significant impact shall be prepared;

(2) Review all proposed changes or additions to the list of categorical exclusions;

(3) Review all findings of no significant impact;

(4) Review all proposed draft and final environmental statements;

(5) Publish the required notices in the FEDERAL REGISTER;

(6) Provide assistance in the preparation of environmental assessments and impact statements and assign lead agency responsibility when more than one FEMA office or administration is involved;

(7) Direct the preparation of environmental documents for specific actions when required;

(8) Comply with the requirements of this part when the Director of FEMA promulgates regulations, procedures or other issuances making or amending Agency policy;

(9) Provide, when appropriate, consolidated FEMA comments on draft

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and final impact statements prepared for the issuance of regulations and procedures of other agencies;

(10) Review FEMA issuances that have environmental implications;

(11) Maintain liaison with the Council on Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of Management and Budget, other Federal agencies, and State and local groups, with respect to environmental analysis for FEMA actions affecting the environment.

(c) *The Heads of the Office and Administrations of FEMA shall:*

(1) Assess environmental consequences of proposed and on-going programs within their respective organizational units;

(2) Prepare and process environmental assessments and environmental impact statements for all regulations, procedures and other issuances making or amending program policy related to actions which do not qualify for categorical exclusions;

(3) Integrate environmental considerations into their decisionmaking processes;

(4) Ensure that regulations, procedures and other issuances making or amending program policy are reviewed for consistency with the requirements of this part;

(5) Designate a single point of contact for matters pertaining to this part;

(6) Provide applicants for FEMA assistance with technical assistance regarding FEMA's environmental review process.

(d) *The Office of General Counsel of FEMA shall:*

(1) Provide advice and assistance concerning the requirements of this part;

(2) Review all proposed changes or additions to the list of categorical exclusions;

(3) Review all findings of no significant impact; and

(4) Review all proposed draft and final environmental impact statements.

[45 FR 41142, June 18, 1980, as amended at 47 FR 13149, Mar. 29, 1982]

### § 10.6 Making or amending policy.

For all regulations, procedures, or other issuances making or amending

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policy, the head of the FEMA office or administration establishing such policy shall be responsible for application of this part to that action. This does not apply to actions categorically excluded. For all policy-making actions not categorically excluded, the head of the office or administration shall comply with the requirements of this part. Thus, for such actions, the office or administration head shall assume the responsibilities that a Regional Director assumes for a FEMA action in his/her respective region. For such policy-making actions taken by the Director of FEMA, the Environmental Officer shall assume the responsibilities that a Regional Director assumes for a FEMA action in his/her respective region.

[45 FR 41142, June 18, 1980, as amended at 47 FR 13149, Mar. 29, 1982]

### § 10.7 Planning.

(a) *Early planning.* The Regional Director shall integrate the NEPA process with other planning at the earliest possible time to ensure that planning decisions reflect environmental values, to avoid delays later in the process, and to head off potential conflicts.

(b) *Lead agency.* To determine the lead agency for policy-making in which more than one FEMA office or administration is involved or any action in which another Federal agency is involved, FEMA offices and administrations shall apply criteria defined in § 1501.5 of the CEQ regulation. If there is disagreement, the FEMA offices and/or administrations shall forward a request for lead agency determination to the Environmental Officer;

(1) The Environmental Officer will determine lead agency responsibility among FEMA offices and administration.

(2) In those cases involving a FEMA office or administration and another Federal agency, the Environmental Officer will attempt to resolve the differences. If unsuccessful, the Environmental Officer will file the request with the Council on Environmental Quality for determination.

(c) *Technical assistance to applicants.* (1) Section 1501.2(d) of the CEQ regulations requires agencies to provide for early involvement in actions which, while planned by private applicants or