

A. Glossary

The list of terms included below is a compilation of terms used in the UFR Process. Understanding that Federal Agencies may have different definitions, these definitions were created to align with the National Disaster Recovery Framework and EHP laws and regulations to facilitate interagency disaster recovery efforts.

Agency liaison – A staff member who is employed by one Agency and supports another Agency for a mutually beneficial purpose.

Applicant – This term includes any of the following: Federally recognized Indian Tribes, Alaskan Native Tribal Governments, authorized Tribal organizations, Alaskan Native village or organizations, state government Agencies, local governments and special districts, private non-profit organizations, and individual home and business owners.

Cooperating Agency – Any Federal Agency other than a Lead Agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact, involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. A state or local Agency of similar qualifications or, when the effects are on a reservation, an Indian Tribe, may by agreement with the Lead Agency become a Cooperating Agency. Cooperating Agencies are selected in accordance with NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1501.6).

Cultural resources – This term encompasses aspects of a cultural system that are valued by or significantly representative of a culture or that contain significant information about a culture. Cultural resources may be tangible entities or cultural practices. Tangible cultural resources are categorized as districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects for the National Register of Historic Places, and as archeological resources, cultural landscapes, structures, museum objects and archives, and ethnographic resources for Federal management purposes. Also includes cultural items under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act [25 USC 3001(3)]; and archeological resources, under the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 [16 USC 470bb(1)].

Data standard – Standards designed to facilitate the development, sharing, and use of data so that information can be exchanged and/or used consistently among all parties.

Disaster – For the purposes of this Guidance, please utilize the definition of Presidentially-declared disaster below.

Disaster recovery – The phase during a Presidentially-declared disaster following disaster response (though the phases may overlap) that begins after the immediate threats to life and property are resolved and ends when the community has recovered from the disaster's

impacts. This period includes the processes necessary to assist communities affected by an incident to recover effectively, including, but not limited to, rebuilding infrastructure systems; providing adequate interim and long-term housing for survivors; restoring health, social, and community services; promoting economic development; and restoring natural and cultural resources.

Disaster recovery project – An action taken after the immediate threat to life and property in a Presidentially-declared disaster has been addressed and which action (1) is subject to Federal involvement by reason of Federal funding (in whole or in part), Federal permitting, or other Federal approval; and, (2) is to (a) restore a community’s facilities to pre-disaster condition or to pre-disaster capacity with such changes as may, for example, aid efficiency, resilience, or sustainability in those capabilities, or (b) provide hazard mitigation activities. Note: An action may be a disaster recovery project even while other “disaster response” actions continue to neutralize ongoing threats to the preservation of life and other property. There is no calendar deadline after which projects to restore a semblance of normal life in a disaster area are no longer considered disaster recovery projects. An action may be preliminary to actual restoration, such as providing debris removal or temporary housing. Furthermore, a community’s facilities may include those that are man-made or part of the natural environment, whether in public or private ownership.

Disaster response – Actions taken immediately after a Presidentially-declared disaster occurs to save lives, protect property and the environment, meet basic human needs, stabilize the incident, restore basic services and community functionality, and establish a safe and secure environment moving toward the transition to recovery.

EHP Practitioner – Agency staff responsible for conducting or contributing to EHP reviews. When the responsibility for conducting the EHP review is delegated or assigned to someone other than the Federal Agency staff, such as contractors, these individuals also meet the definition of EHP Practitioner for the purposes of this Guidance. This definition includes Housing and Urban Development (HUD) responsible entities under HUD’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, who are grantees that must complete an EHP review of all proposed project activities prior to committing CDBG.

EHP requirement(s) – The Federal laws, acts, regulations, and Executive Orders that support the protection and stewardship of natural and cultural resources within the United States and its territories and possessions.

EHP review(s) – Federal Agencies engage in a review process to ensure that Federally funded activities comply with EHP requirements. By accepting Federal funds, grantees accept the responsibility of complying with EHP requirements, as required by the Federal Agencies providing assistance. As part of this responsibility, grantees must participate in EHP reviews by providing information necessary to complete an EHP review. Failure to comply with these requirements could result in project delays and denial of funding.

Federal actions – Projects and programs entirely or partly financed, assisted, conducted, regulated, or approved by Federal Agencies; new or revised Agency rules, regulations, plans, policies, or procedures; and legislative proposals.

Federal Agency – An administrative unit of the Federal Government. It does not include Congress, the Judiciary, or the President, including the performance of staff functions for the President in the Executive Office.

Federal assistance – Grants, loans, and other programs that provide financial and other types of assistance to Tribes, state and local governments, and certain types of private non-profit organizations, so that communities can quickly recover from Presidentially-declared disasters.

Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator (FDRC) – The FDRC is responsible for coordination and collaboration among the various stakeholders involved in disaster recovery, including Agencies, Tribes, local governments, and community organizations. FDRCs, Federal Coordinating Officers (FCOs), and Recovery Office Directors manage the Federal response and recovery to a disaster. The FDRCs, FCOs, and Recovery Office Directors coordinate relief through field offices and take actions to provide Federal assistance.

Funding Agency – Agencies that provide Federal assistance to Tribes, states, local communities, businesses, and individuals through grants, loans, and other programs to aid in the recovery from a disaster. Funding Agencies may include, but are not limited to, FEMA, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Hazard mitigation – Hazard mitigation is sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from hazards and their effects.

Historic properties – Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), including artifacts, records, and material remains which are related to such district, site, building, structure, or object [16 USC Section 70(w)(5)]. This term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the NRHP criteria. The National Park Service is responsible for the NRHP.

Human environment – "Human environment" shall be interpreted comprehensively to include the natural and physical environment and the relationship of people with that environment. This means that economic or social effects are not intended by themselves to require preparation of an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment. When an environmental impact statement is prepared and economic or social and natural or physical environmental effects are interrelated, then the environmental impact statement will discuss all of these effects on the human environment.

Indian Tribe – "Indian Tribe" means any Indian Tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Alaskan Native village or organizations as defined in

or established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688) [43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.], which is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

Kickoff Meeting – Kickoff Meetings, hosted by FEMA, provide the first opportunity for EHP Practitioners to share information with Applicants, and help to set the stage for a unified and expedited EHP review. EHP Practitioners should use Kickoff Meetings to communicate relevant EHP information to Applicants.

Mechanisms – Processes for implementing a unified and expedited EHP review for disaster recovery projects, which include: *UFR Guidance for EHP Practitioners (Practitioner Guidance)*; *Prototype Programmatic Agreement for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (PPA)*; *Disaster-Specific Memorandum of Understanding (Disaster-Specific MOU)*; *Data Sharing Agreement Content*; *Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)*; *MOU Establishing the Unified Federal Environmental and Historic Preservation Review Process (UFR MOU)*.

Natural and Cultural Resources Recovery Support Function (NCR RSF) – The NCR RSF is one of the six recovery support functions that supports the NDRF. The core recovery capability for the NCR RSF is the ability to protect natural and cultural resources and historic properties through appropriate response and recovery actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, and restore them consistent with post-disaster community priorities and in compliance with appropriate environmental and cultural resources requirements.

National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) – The NDRF lays out pre- and post-disaster planning activities to support disaster recovery, provides an interagency coordination structure, and defines roles and responsibilities for all who contribute to the disaster recovery effort. The NDRF has a focus on pre-disaster preparedness and an emphasis on sustainability as a way to reduce community vulnerability and improve resiliency.

Natural resources – Land, air, fish, wildlife, biota, and water. Water means salt and fresh water, surface and ground water used for drinking, irrigation, aquaculture and recreational purposes, as well as in its capacity as fish and wildlife habitat.

Pre-disaster recovery planning – Actions taken to support disaster recovery before a disaster occurs and during disaster response, including building relationships and communication between Federal Agencies, Tribes, state Agencies, and stakeholders and pre-positioning information relevant to the EHP reviews in advance of a disaster.

Pre-positioning – Disaster pre-planning and preparedness aimed at reducing recurring costs and disruption to lives and communities resulting from dynamic environmental changes.

Presidentially-declared disaster – Any disaster for which the President issues a major disaster declaration and thereby authorizes the provision of individual, public assistance, and/or hazard mitigation grant program assistance from the Federal government.

Resource/Regulatory Agency – Agencies that have the protection of the environment and/or cultural resources as part of their mission and regulatory authority, and review or evaluate applications for projects through consultations issuance of permits or other determinations. Examples of Resource/Regulatory Agencies include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS).

Responsible Entity – Under 24 CFR part 58, a unit of general local government, a county, or a state that is the recipient of HUD assistance (the “responsible entity” or “RE”) is responsible for the Federal environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and related applicable Federal laws and authorities in accordance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6.

Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act – Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 100-707, was signed into law November 23, 1988. The Stafford Act constitutes the statutory authority for most Federal disaster response activities especially as they pertain to FEMA and FEMA programs.

Sandy Recovery Improvement Act – On January 29, 2013, President Obama signed into law the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013 (SRIA) which amended the Stafford Act by adding Section 429, which directs the President to “establish an expedited and unified interagency review process to ensure compliance with environmental and historic requirements under Federal law relating to disaster recovery projects, in order to expedite the recovery process, consistent with applicable law.” This directive has resulted in the UFR Process. For more information on the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act please see FEMA’s fact sheet located at: http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1394805512529-69dda27af3e128a1406387d288fd162c/SRIA+Overview+Fact+Sheet+and+Status+Updated+03042014_508.pdf.

Stakeholder – Potentially impacted entities, including members of the public, who participate in some of part of the EHP review to engage them in soliciting feedback and comments on project development.

Tools – Products which support the UFR Process, which include: *UFR Webpage; EHP Agency Point of Contact List (Agency POC List); EHP Guidance for Federal Disaster Recovery Assistance Applicants (Applicant Guidance); Template Environmental Checklist for FEMA and HUD; Data Standards List; IT Resources List; EHP Disaster Recovery Skills Checklist (EHP Skills Checklist); EHP UFR Disaster Recovery Training and Training for Recovery Leadership.*

UFR Advisor – A role developed by the UFR Process to act as a liaison and coordinator between Federal Agencies. The UFR Advisor is often a FEMA employee, but if FEMA is unable to fill the role during a disaster due to capacity issues, the UFR Advisor may come from other support Agencies of the NCR RSF. If the Federal disaster recovery leadership determines the need for a UFR Advisor, the UFR Advisor will deploy to support leadership in the Joint Field Office or other deployment location. There may be multiple UFR Advisors if there are multiple Joint Field

Offices. The UFR Advisor will make the determination whether to create disaster-specific mechanisms to support interagency coordination, such as a Disaster-Specific MOU.

UFR Process – An expedited interagency review process designed to ensure compliance with environmental and historic requirements under Federal law relating to disaster recovery projects, to expedite the recovery process, consistent with applicable law.