



**FEMA**

## **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

Proposed Emergency Operations Center  
Thurston County, Washington  
FEMA 2009-EO-MX-0013 (02)

Thurston County applied to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for funding assistance to build a new emergency operation center (EOC). Funding was authorized through the Robert T Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act as amended by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007. EOC grant program goals include improving emergency response capability/capacity based on need, through the construction, renovation, or modification of EOCs.

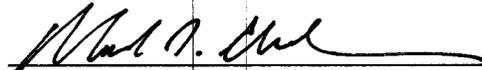
The Proposed Action includes construction of an approximately 11,000 square foot EOC on 3.6 acres located at 9605 Tilley Road, Olympia, in Thurston County. The building will be adjacent to Thurston County's road maintenance facility and include space for offices, training, and emergency operations. The site will also have parking and a 50 foot communications tower.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and FEMA's implementation regulations, FEMA prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify and evaluate potential environmental impacts resulting from the alternatives presented in the EA and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impacts Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Alternatives evaluated in the EA included: No Action, continued use of existing EOC facilities; construction of a new EOC. Other alternatives were considered but not carried forth and are described in the EA. The Draft EA, including the reason for selection of the preferred alternative, was made available for public review and comment from April 17 to May 16, 2010. FEMA did not receive substantive comments on the Draft EA.

**FINDINGS**

Based upon the grant application, site and building design, EA (incorporated by reference), and attached Mitigation and Conservation Measures; and in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10 for environmental consideration, including Executive Orders (EO) addressing floodplains (EO 11988), wetlands (EO 11990), and environmental justice (EO 12898), FEMA determined the proposed project will not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (44 CFR Part 10.8) and the project, based upon the findings above, may proceed.

**APPROVAL**



Mark G. Eberlein  
Regional Environmental Officer  
FEMA Region X

5-24-10

Date

**Attachment A:**

**MITIGATION AND CONSERVATION MEASURES**

Mitigation and conservation measures refer to actions that would minimize or eliminate potential adverse environmental impacts that could result from the Proposed Action:

- The County shall secure and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local project permitting.
- The County must secure a coastal zone management plan consistency determination from the WA Department of Ecology before proceeding.
- The County must secure an NPDES General Construction Permit. During site work, the County is responsible for selecting, implementing, monitoring, and maintaining best management practices to control soil erosion and sediment, reduce spills and pollution, and provide habitat protection; consistent with permitting requirements.
- Site soils would be covered and/or wetted during construction as needed to minimize fugitive dust.
- Construction activities will be conducted during the daytime, to reduce adverse noise impacts.
- Conservation measures outlined in the Mazama Pocket Gopher Habitat Management Plan shall be implemented.
- Site work will occur outside the nesting season for migratory birds, generally April 1 to July 15; if vegetation clearing is required during the breeding season, the area will be first surveyed by a biologist for the presence of nesting birds to ensure that active nests (nests with eggs and/or chicks) are not destroyed or impacted.
- In the event that archaeological or historic materials are discovered during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity shall be discontinued, the area secured, and the SHPO and FEMA notified.
- County is responsible for determining the presence of hazardous materials during demolition work. This may include, but is not limited to, asbestos containing materials and lead-based paint, discarded paints and solvents, cleaning chemicals, containers of pesticides, lead acid batteries, items containing chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), used oil filters and motor oil. County shall handle, manage, abate, and dispose of hazardous materials in accordance to the requirements and to the satisfaction of the governing local, state and federal agencies, including but not limited to the Washington Department of Ecology.
- If any hazardous materials are found during construction; these shall be characterized, remediated, and disposed of as appropriate, and otherwise handled in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
- The site stormwater management system shall be operated and maintained consistent with its intended design.
- Any change to the approved scope of work in the FEMA grant application and in the EA as the proposed alternative will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other laws and Executive Orders.