

APPENDIX D
EIGHT-STEP PLANNING PROCESS FOR FLOODPLAINS AND WETLANDS

Eight-Step Planning Process for Floodplains and Wetlands

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<p>Step 1: Determine whether the Proposed Action is located in a wetland and/or the 100-year floodplain, or whether it has the potential to affect or be affected by a floodplain or wetland.</p>	<p>Project Analysis: According to the FEMA FIRM (Map Number 28033C0076G, 2007), the realignment of the unnamed tributary to Rocky Creek will require work within Zone AE (the 100-year floodplain) and within the Rocky Creek floodway.</p> <p>According to National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) mapping and site visits conducted on April 7, 2009 and February 1, 2010, no wetlands will be impacted by the proposed project. Therefore, wetlands will not be considered in the remainder of the eight-step planning process.</p>
<p>Step 2: Notify public at earliest possible time of the intent to carry out an action in a floodplain or wetland, and involve the affected and interested public in the decision-making process.</p>	<p>Project Analysis: A public notice will be published by the applicant in a newspaper of general circulation when the SEA is made available for public review.</p>
<p>Step 3: Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives to locating the Proposed Action in a floodplain or wetland.</p>	<p>Project Analysis: The Proposed Action includes the relocation of approximately 410 feet of stream channel for the purpose of protecting a fire station and roadway from erosion and undercutting.</p> <p>Other than the No Action Alternative, there are no practicable alternatives that would not involve work within the 100-year floodplain because the drainage channel of concern is located within the 100-year floodplain.</p>
<p>Step 4: Identify the full range of potential direct or indirect impacts associated with the occupancy or modification of floodplains and wetlands, and the potential direct and indirect support of floodplain and wetland development that could result from the Proposed Action.</p>	<p>Project Analysis: The Proposed Action would result in the relocation of approximately 410 feet of the existing stream channel approximately 50 feet to the south. The proposed project is not anticipated to result in a decrease in floodplain capacity or an appreciable increase to flood velocities or elevations upstream or downstream.</p> <p>On September 2, 2010, the City of Southaven issued a No-Rise Certification for the proposed project. No adverse impact to the floodplain is anticipated.</p>
<p>Step 5: Minimize the potential adverse impacts from work within floodplains and wetlands (identified under Step 4), restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by wetlands.</p>	<p>Project Analysis: The Proposed Action is not anticipated to result in any adverse impact to the 100-year floodplain because the relocated channel will be able to convey an equivalent volume of water as the existing channel.</p>

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	<p>The Applicant must follow all applicable local, State, and Federal laws, regulations and requirements and obtain and comply with all required permits and approvals, prior to initiating work on this project. No staging of equipment or project activities shall begin until all permits are obtained. The Applicant must apply BMPs for soil erosion prevention and containment during staging of equipment and project activities. Should project activities be delayed for 1 year or more after the date of this EA, coordination and project review by the appropriate regulating agencies must be reinitiated.</p>
<p>Step 6: Re-evaluate the Proposed Action to determine: 1) if it is still practicable in light of its exposure to flood hazards; 2) the extent to which it will aggravate the hazards to others; 3) its potential to disrupt floodplain and wetland values.</p>	<p>Project Analysis: The Proposed Action remains practicable despite its location within the 100-year floodplain and floodway. No adverse impacts to the floodplain are anticipated and the proposed project will not aggravate hazards to others.</p>
<p>Step 7: If the agency decides to take an action in a floodplain or wetland, prepare and provide the public with a finding and explanation of any final decision that the floodplain or wetland is the only practicable alternative. The explanation should include any relevant factors considered in the decision-making process.</p>	<p>Project Analysis: A public notice will be published informing the public of FEMA’s decision to proceed with the project. This notice will include rationale for floodplain impacts; a description of all significant facts considered in making the determination; a list of the alternatives considered; and a statement indicating whether the action conforms to State and Federal floodplain management standards.</p>
<p>Step 8: Review the implementation and post-implementation phases of the Proposed Action to ensure that the requirements of the EOs are fully implemented. Oversight responsibility shall be integrated into existing processes.</p>	<p>Project Analysis: This step is integrated into the NEPA process and FEMA project management and oversight functions.</p>