



**FEMA**

**SEP 28 2005**

MEMORANDUM FOR: Regional Directors  
Acting Regional Directors  
Regions I-X

THROUGH: Response & Recovery Division Directors

FROM: Daniel A. Craig  
Director  
Recovery Division 

SUBJECT: Assistance via Non-Traditional Inspection Methods

This memorandum serves as official notification that streamlined inspection measures are to be implemented to assist with damage verification of primary homes located in zones deemed uninhabitable or where long term inaccessibility is expected.

A home inspection is generally required as a condition of determining eligibility for assistance. However, due to the magnitude and severity of damage in declared states and the continuing inaccessibility in the most devastated neighborhoods, inspections are infeasible within a reasonable time frame. As such, use of an alternate method of damage verification is essential for the timely delivery of assistance to registrants from these areas. FEMA will clearly identify these areas by using a combination of rapid needs assessment, map overlay, and GIS data. Utilizing a commercial consumer information database, FEMA's automated processing database will verify ownership, occupancy and other qualifications necessary for assistance delivery in these areas.

Please ensure that this policy is promptly shared with your respective States.

For additional information regarding the policy, please contact Lumumba Yancey at (202) 646-3939.

cc: NPSC Coordination Team  
Sandra Martin, Congressional Affairs