



FEMA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Final Environmental Assessment
Replacement of Lewis County Fire District #13 Fire Main Station (Station #1)
FEMA-1734-DR-WA

The Lewis County Fire District #13 (Fire District) applied, through the Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD), to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Public Assistance funding to relocate a fire station that was damaged by flooding. The purpose of the Public Assistance program is to award financial grants to assist state and local governments, federally recognized Tribal governments, and certain private nonprofit entities in recovery from disasters.

During a December 2007 storm event, Fire Station #1 was flooded when a debris jam at a bridge caused water from the South Fork Chehalis River to divert into the project area. The facility sustained such damage that the Lewis County Building Official condemned the structure. The proposed unmanned (volunteer) fire substation location is 997 Boistfort Road, Boistfort, WA; SW ¼ of Section 44, T12N, R4W, Willamette Meridian (Lat. 46.54866, Long. -123.13236).

The Proposed Action includes demolishing existing Station #1 and constructing the new station approximately 50 feet to the east. The new location is currently a garden and lawn area. Approximately 440 cubic yards of fill would be required to increase the elevation of the new station by 3 feet in order to comply with the County's code for critical facilities. The site of the existing station would be graded and paved to provide driveway access off Boistfort Road to the new station. The new station would be a 3,968 square-foot, with 624 square-foot mezzanine, four-bay facility housing a fire engine, water tender, rescue truck and aid vehicle. It would also have a restroom, shower, training room, laundry, office, records room and storage area. The existing parking lot would remain, and the new paved area for the driveway and apron in front of the new fire station would total approximately 5,200 square feet. A septic tank and drainfield would be installed between the area south of the new station and Kahout Road.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 1500 through 1508), and FEMA's implementing regulations (44 CFR 10.9), FEMA prepared a Draft EA to identify and evaluate potential environmental impacts resulting from the alternatives presented in the EA and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The following resources were evaluated: Hazardous Materials and Toxic Waste, Floodplains, Wetlands, Historic, Archaeological and Cultural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, Socioeconomic and Environmental Justice, and Public Health and Safety.

Alternatives evaluated in the EA include: (1) the No Action Alternative, and (2) the Preferred Alternative (which is the Proposed Action) toward which FEMA would contribute funding. Other alternatives were considered but not carried forward. The Preferred Alternative was selected because

it relocates the station outside the area that previously flooded, and is within the response range to meet emergency response times for the volunteer fire district. The Fire District conducted substantial public outreach regarding the project; therefore, the Draft EA was available for public comment for 15 rather than 30 days. No comments were received requiring substantial changes to the draft EA.

CONDITIONS

The following conditions apply, and failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize the receipt of Federal funds:

1. The applicant shall obtain all required local, state, and federal permits and approvals prior to implementing the Proposed Action Alternative and comply with any and all conditions imposed.
2. The applicant shall provide notification to the Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA) regulations of the intent to demolish the original fire station, determine whether ACM is present, and if so, comply with all applicable requirements for removal and disposal.
3. The applicant shall characterize, manage, and dispose of demolition wastes in accordance with Ecology regulations.
4. The applicant is responsible for implementing, monitoring, and maintaining best management practices to control erosion and sediment, reduce spills and pollution, and provide habitat protection, including compliance with the conditions of the stormwater general construction permit.
5. Any change to the approved scope of work will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other laws and Executive Orders.
6. In the event that cultural, archaeological or historic materials are discovered during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity shall be discontinued, the area secured, and the State, Affected Tribes, and FEMA notified.

FINDING

Based upon the PA grant application and Final EA; and in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10 for environmental consideration, including Executive Orders (EOs) 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 as described in the PA grant application and Final EA may proceed.

APPROVALS



Mark G. Eberlein
Acting Environmental Officer

7-20-12

Date