

# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

MEMORANDUM FOR: Regional Administrators  
FEMA Regions I-X

FROM: David I. Maurstad  
Assistant Administrator

DATE: 11-JAN-08

SUBJECT: Implementation of State Mitigation Plan Requirement for  
Severe Repetitive Loss Strategy

I am providing you the policy and guidance regarding the timeframes and procedures for implementing the provisions for State Mitigation Plans under the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 44 Emergency Management and Assistance, specifically 44 CFR 201.4(c)(3)(iv), as published in the Interim Final Rule (IFR) on October 31, 2007, (72 FR 61748). The IFR introduces a new requirement for FEMA-approved State Mitigation Plans to address severe repetitive loss properties in mitigation strategies as a condition of eligibility for a reduced non-federal cost share under the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) grant programs. The purpose of this policy is to convey the revised State Mitigation Plan guidance under the *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance under DMA 2000*, also known as the "Blue Book", and to describe the timeframe by which States and Tribal entities must meet these new requirements and the procedures that State and Tribal entities must follow.

The *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance under DMA 2000*, or the "Blue Book," is the official guidance for the Mitigation Planning regulations under 44 CFR 201. The attached State Mitigation Plan guidance and corresponding plan review crosswalk revise the "Blue Book" to add the section, Severe Repetitive Loss Strategy, which describes the required criteria for States and Tribes to address severe repetitive loss in a State (Standard or Enhanced) or Tribal Mitigation Plan, under 44 CFR 201.4 or 201.7, as appropriate. The State Mitigation Plan must meet all of the Standard Mitigation Plan requirements and the Severe Repetitive Loss Strategy requirements in order to be approved by FEMA and be eligible to receive the reduced cost share for grants awarded under the FMA and SRL programs pursuant to 44 CFR 79.4(c)(2).

The State or Tribe may include the Severe Repetitive Loss Strategy in its regular plan update or in an amendment to its existing State or Tribal Mitigation Plan. If amended, the Severe Repetitive Loss Strategy can be added as an annex to the plan, but must be incorporated into the appropriate section(s) when the plan is formally updated, as required under 44 CFR 201.4(d) or 201.7(d). The amended plan must, at a minimum, be endorsed under signature (e.g., by letter of conveyance or by resolution) of the director of the State agency responsible for preparing and implementing the plan.

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I am requesting that you provide this new guidance to States that have severe repetitive loss properties. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact me or have a member of your staff contact Kathleen Smith, Risk Assessment Branch, at (202) 646-4372.

Attachments (2)

cc: Mitigation Division Directors, FEMA Regions I-X