Floodplain Management

The 8-Step Process is required by both <u>EO 11988</u> (Floodplain Management) & <u>EO 11990</u> (Wetlands Protection). <u>24 CFR Part 55</u> are HUD's regulations developed to establish standards to ensure compliance with both Executive Orders (EOs).

STEP 1: Determine if the proposed project is in a 100-year floodplain (or 500-year floodplain for critical actions) and/or a wetland. If yes, move forward with the 8-Step Process.

- Information to Gather:
 - Proposed Project Location/Address
 - O FEMA FIRMette: Map #, Panel #, Effective Date, Flood Zone.
 - O National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) Map: Wetland Classification
- Does this project qualify as a Critical Action?

STEP 2: Publish the Early Notice. Notify the public for early review of the proposal and involve the affected and interested public in the decision-making process.

- Notice Information: Project Description, Location, Type and Size of Special Flood Hazard Area, Type/Classification and size of wetland, beneficial functions and values of natural features that may be affected, contact info, & office address and hours.
- 15-day minimum for the notice.
- Include any responses to any comments in the 8-Step document.
- Contact VCDP Environmental Officer for a template and guidance.

STEP 3: Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives.



STEP 4: Identify potential direct & indirect impacts associated with floodplain and/or wetland development.

- Lives & Property
 - How many residents/workers are being introduced into the development area?
 - O What is the cost/value of the proposed development?
- Beneficial Floodplain or Wetland Values:
 - Water Resources- Flood moderation, water quality maintenance, & groundwater recharge.
 - O Climate Resources- Effects of changes in landcover.

STEP 5: Design or modify the proposed action to minimize the potential adverse impacts to lives, property, & natural values in the floodplain and/or wetland and to preserve its value.



STEP 6: Re-evaluate the alternatives.

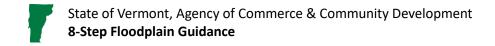
- Is the proposed project still practicable considering exposure to flood hazards?
- Are the alternatives rejected at Step 3 now practicable due to information gained in Step 4 & 5?
- Consider impacts to: human life, real property, & the beneficial functions and values of the natural features of the floodplain and/or wetland.
- Re-evaluation: Include a review of the economic costs of each alternative.

STEP 7: Publish Final Notice-Determination of no practicable alternative.

- Notice Information:
 - O Justify why the development must be located on this site.
 - Include a list of alternative site(s) considered under Step 3.
 - Cite all mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore the floodplain and/or wetland.
 - 15-day minimum for the notice.
 - Include responses to any comments in the 8-Step document.
 - Contact the Environmental Officer for a template & guidance.

STEP 8: Implement the proposed action.

- After taking public comments into consideration, the project can move forward.
- Mitigation measures will be conveyed to the sponsor in writing via the Environmental Release & Environmental Review Record (ERR) on GEARS.



Environmental Review Contact Information

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