

## Part 610 – National Environmental Compliance Handbook

### Subpart H – Exhibits

#### 610.109 Floodplain Management Evaluation Procedure Guide Sheet

##### **FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT EVALUATION PROCEDURE GUIDE SHEET**

**Note:** This guide sheet is intended for evaluation of nonproject technical and financial assistance only. For project assistance criteria (those assisting local sponsoring organizations), consult Title 190, General Manual, Part 410, Subpart B, Section 410.25.

##### **STEP 1**

Will the proposed action or alternatives result in changes to the function of the 100-year floodplain?

If "No," additional evaluation is not needed. **Document the determination on the NRCS-CPA-52 and proceed with planning.**

If "Yes," go to Step 2.

If "Unknown," review the HUD/FEMA flood insurance maps and other available data. If still "unknown," contact the appropriate field or hydraulic engineer. **Repeat Step 1.**

##### **STEP 2**

Over the short or long term, will this proposed action or alternative likely result in an increased flood hazard, incompatible development, or other adverse effect to the existing natural and beneficial values of the floodplain or lands adjacent or downstream from the floodplain?

If "No," **document your finding on the NRCS-CPA-52 and proceed with planning.**

If "Yes," modify the action to avoid adverse effects, if possible. Inform the land user of the hazards of locating actions in the floodplain and discuss alternative methods of achieving the objective, alternative locations outside the 100-year floodplain, or both. If the action can be modified, describe the modification on the NRCS-CPA-52 and **repeat Step 2**. If the action cannot be modified to eliminate adverse effects **go to step 3**.

##### **STEP 3**

Do practicable alternatives that avoid impacts within the 100-year floodplain exist?

If "No," go to Step 5.

If your answer is "Yes" and the client agrees to implement the alternative that avoids impacts within the 100-year floodplain, **document the agreed-upon actions, including the reasons, on the NRCS-CPA-52 and proceed with planning.**

If your answer is "Yes" and client does not agree to implement the alternative that avoids impacts within the 100-year floodplain, **go to Step 4.**

**STEP 4**

Is the proposed action or alternative likely to result in significant adverse effects on existing natural and beneficial values in the 100-year floodplain?

**If “No,” go to Step 5.**

**If “Yes,”** document the finding on the NRCS CPA-52 and advise the client that NRCS may not continue to provide technical or financial assistance

**STEP 5**

Will assistance continue to be provided?

**If "No,"** provide written notification of the decision to terminate assistance to the client and the local conservation district, if one exists. Document the decision, including the reasons, on the NRCS-CPA-52.

**If “Yes,”** the district conservationist should **design or modify the proposed action or alternative to minimize the adverse effects to the extent possible. Circulate a written public notice** locally explaining why the action is proposed to be located in the 100-year floodplain. Document the decision, including the reasons, on the NRCS-CPA-52 and proceed with planning.