



FEMA

External Affairs Guidance

August 2020

DEBRIS MONITORING GUIDE (INTERIM) – PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

PURPOSE

FEMA Office of External Affairs develops and disseminates External Affairs Guidance (EAG) to provide standardized messaging, supporting products and associated timelines, and coordinate External Affairs Advisors' notification to both internal and external audiences. The EAG is developed consistent with FEMA Standard Operating Procedure (September 27, 2011).

This EAG is an advising document to identify the avenues FEMA will use to seek feedback for the Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim), which is scheduled for final publication by fall 2020.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GUIDANCE CONTENTS

This External Affairs Guidance contains the following:

- Key Messages
- Timeline
- Talking Points
- External Communications Materials
- Information on the Public Comment Period and Submitting Feedback

MEDIA GUIDANCE

Please refer media calls to FEMA News Desk at 202-646-3892.

KEY MESSAGES

- The Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim) is scheduled for final publication by the fall of 2020. An interim version of the Guide was published on August 3, 2020 and is located on the FEMA website at www.fema.gov/assistance/public/policy-guidance-fact-sheets/sops-operations-manuals.
- FEMA is simultaneously releasing the interim version for a 45-day public comment period. The draft guide and accompanying comments matrix are located on the FEMA website at www.fema.gov/assistance/public/policy-guidance-fact-sheets. FEMA will accept public comments submitted between August 3, 2020 and September 17, 2020. FEMA requests that all comments be submitted to FEMA-Recovery-PA-Policy@fema.dhs.gov using the accompanying comments matrix. Any comments received during the public comment period will be reviewed and considered for the final version of the guide to be released in the fall of 2020. This announcement also includes a list of changes and additions from the previous version.

TIMELINE

- Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim) was released on August 3, 2020.
- The public comment period for Debris Monitoring Guide is August 3, 2020 through September 17, 2020.
- Final Debris Monitoring Guide is scheduled for release in the fall of 2020.

TALKING POINTS

- FEMA is seeking public comment on the Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim). The public comment period is from August 3, 2020 through September 17, 2020.
- This Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim) provides PA Applicants and Recipients (States, Territories, or Tribes that are the pass-through entity between the Applicant and FEMA) with guidance on monitoring debris removal operations and eligibility requirements associated with necessary work and reasonable costs to carry out a debris monitoring program.
- Updates to the Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim) include:
 - Citations and policy references updated as necessary (e.g., Part 13 to 2 CFR 200); and
 - Procurement/contract requirements updated to comply with the Procurement Disaster Assistance Team (PDAT) 2019 Field Manual.

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS MATERIALS

PA Policy Advisory/FEMA Bulletin

FEMA Announces Public Comment Period for Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim)

The Debris Monitoring Guide is being released as interim guidance and simultaneously being opened for public comment. The interim guide includes several changes that incorporate procurement/contract requirements updated to comply with the Procurement Disaster Assistance Team (PDAT) 2019 Field Manual.

This Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim) provides PA Applicants and Recipients (States, Territories, or Tribes that are the pass-through entity between the Applicant and FEMA) with guidance on monitoring debris removal operations and eligibility requirements associated with necessary work and reasonable costs to carry out a debris monitoring program.

FEMA released the current interim version for a 45-day public comment period. The interim guide and accompanying comments matrix are available on the FEMA website at: www.fema.gov/assistance/public/policy-guidance-fact-sheets. FEMA will accept public comments submitted between August 3, 2020 and September 17, 2020. FEMA requests that all comments be submitted to FEMA-Recovery-PA-Policy@fema.dhs.gov using the accompanying comments matrix. Any comments received before the close of the public comment period will be reviewed and considered for the final version of the guide to be released by the fall of 2020.

If you have questions or suggestions about the Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim), please email FEMA-Recovery-PA-Policy@fema.dhs.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact FEMA Office of External Affairs, Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Division:

- Congressional Affairs at (202) 646-4500 or at FEMA-Congressional-Affairs@fema.dhs.gov
- Intergovernmental Affairs at (202) 646-3444 or at FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov
- Tribal Affairs (202) 646-3444 or at FEMA-Tribal@fema.dhs.gov
- Private Sector Engagement at (202) 646-3444 or at nbeoc@max.gov

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PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND SUBMITTING FEEDBACK:

Public Comment Period: The current Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim) will be available for review and comment from August 3, 2020 through September 17, 2020. The Debris Monitoring Guide (Interim) and accompanying comments matrix is available on the FEMA website at www.fema.gov/assistance/public/policy-guidance-fact-sheets.

Submitting feedback: Comments should be provided using the comments matrix. Please provide any comments, input or recommendations no later than September 17, 2020. The completed comments matrix should be sent by e-mail to FEMA-Recovery-PA-Policy@fema.dhs.gov.

If you have questions or general suggestions regarding the comment period, please email FEMA-Recovery-PA-Policy@fema.dhs.gov.