

What is the UFR process?

The Unified Federal Review (UFR) process was established under the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013. Eleven federal departments and agencies entered into a Memorandum of Understanding, formally establishing the UFR process.



UFR enhances the ability of federal agencies to expedite and streamline Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) compliance reviews for disaster recovery projects.

- The UFR process improves coordination across a range of federal agencies as well as numerous state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) authorities.
- UFR implementation expedites EHP reviews by ensuring consistency and collaboration among agencies conducting EHP reviews, and provides frameworks for interagency communication.

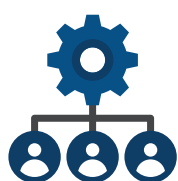
The UFR process does:



Encourage the development of disaster specific agreements to **streamline benefits** to applicants



Reduce paperwork and time by **helping organizations coordinate**



Enhance working relationships and coordination across agencies



Make it easier to get answers by **coordinating agency responses** to your questions

The UFR process does NOT:



Establish a single review process for multiple agencies funding a single project



Change existing regulations or interagency agreements



Guarantee approval or funding for FEMA or other federal agency grant programs



Responsibilities of the UFR process:

NATIONAL LEVEL:

- Provides national strategic oversight for the implementation of the UFR process, assisting UFR Regional Coordinators, UFR Advisors, and Interagency Stakeholders during disaster recovery and steady state operations.
- Builds national networks during steady state.
- Develops interagency agreements and programmatic approaches during steady state and disaster activations.

Who is involved?

Interagency Working Group	UFR Executive Steering Group
National UFR Team	National UFR Coordinator

Products

- Education and Outreach
- Guidance
- Job Aids
- National Agreements
- National Coordination
- Policy
- Strategic Direction
- Working Groups

REGIONAL LEVEL:

- Establishes interagency relationships with regional contacts.
- Supports field operations by providing regional context for interagency coordination issues.
- Builds regional networks during steady state.
- Develops streamlining measures, interagency agreements and programmatic approaches, and other process efficiencies during steady state and disaster activations.
- Provides UFR process implementation expertise to expedite EHP compliance.

Regional UFR Coordinator	Regional Environmental Officer
Regional Interagency Partners	Region or State Specific UFR Working Groups

- Education and Outreach
- Partnerships
- Region or State Specific Agreements
- Regional and District Coordination

FIELD LEVEL:

- Conducts outreach and educates partners and stakeholders about the UFR process.
- Coordinates federal technical assistance capabilities as well as EHP compliance across agencies.
- Supports the assessment of gaps/shortfalls and identifies/develops solutions under the UFR process.
- Acts as liaison between federal agencies to identify opportunities to expedite EHP compliance.
- Facilitates coordination across agencies.
- Provides UFR inputs for an Integrated Strategic Plan.

UFR Advisor	RSF Coordinators and Field Advisors
EHP Advisor / Lead EHP Advisor	UFR or EHP Practitioners
Interagency Recovery Coordination Group	

- Education and Outreach
- Programmatic Environmental Assessments