FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

**Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration**

8-Step Decision-Making Process for Floodplain Management Considerations and Protection of Wetlands

**STEPS**

1. Yes
   - Determine if proposed action* is in the base** floodplain
   - No

2. Early public review
   - Identify and evaluate alternatives to locating in the base** floodplain
   - No action

3. In the base** floodplain
   - Not in base** floodplain
   - Yes
   - Does the action have impacts in the base** floodplain?
   - Yes
   - Does the action indirectly support floodplain development?
   - No

4. Identify impacts of proposed action
   - Yes
   - Minimize, restore, and preserve
   - No action

5. Reevaluate alternatives
   - In the base** floodplain
   - No action
   - Limit action – Return to Step 3

6. Findings and public explanation

7. Implement action

* For wetlands, “Action” includes “New Construction” only.

** For critical actions, substitute “500 year” for “base” and for wetlands delete “base floodplain” and substitute “wetlands”.

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