

Oregon National Flood Insurance Program Endangered Species Act Integration

Pre-Implementation Compliance Measures Overview

Beginning this summer, FEMA will assist communities with coming changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in Oregon.

Why are the changes needed?

As the result of a Biological Opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service, communities are required to demonstrate how floodplain development is compliant with the Endangered Species Act in Special Flood Hazard Areas. Changes are needed to protect the habitat of several species of fish and the Southern Resident killer whales to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). FEMA outlined these changes in the [draft Oregon NFIP-ESA Implementation Plan](#).

Current status

FEMA is evaluating proposed changes to the NFIP outlined in the Implementation Plan through an environmental impact statement (EIS), in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).



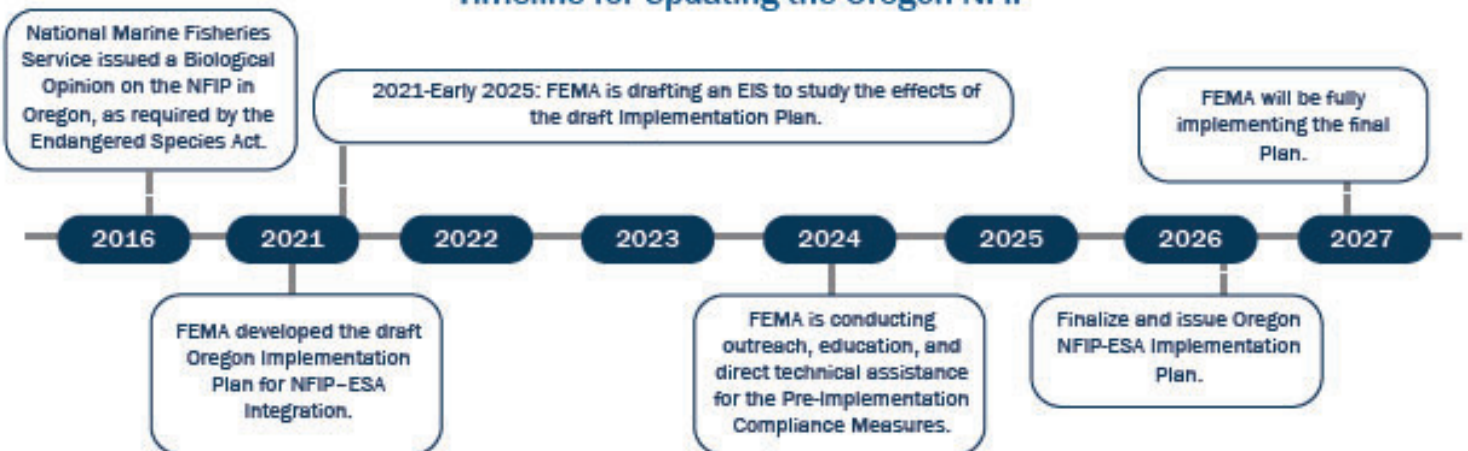
The National Flood Insurance Program serves to protect lives and property, while reducing costs to taxpayers due to flooding loss.

What is “no net loss”?

Any development action resulting in negative impacts to one or more key floodplain functions that are then mitigated or avoided to offset said impacts.

The Final Implementation Plan is anticipated by 2026 following the Record of Decision in the EIS process, then FEMA will fully implement the plan in 2027. Until then, communities need to begin taking action to protect habitat and achieve “no net loss.” FEMA is offering several resources for communities to learn more and implement interim measures, called Pre-Implementation Compliance Measures (PICMs).

Timeline for Updating the Oregon NFIP



What can communities do to comply with these changes?

Oregon communities participating in the NFIP can take short-term measures to comply with ESA requirements, known as PICMs. FEMA developed these measures in response to concerns from communities about the time and resources needed to meet requirements and ensure their future good standing in the NFIP. By implementing these measures now, communities will be better prepared for compliance audits, which will begin when the Final Implementation Plan is in place.

Communities can select one of the following three PICMs:

- Prohibit all new development in the floodplain.
- Incorporate the ESA into local floodplain ordinances.
- Require permit applicants to develop a Floodplain Habitat Assessment documenting that their proposed development in the Special Flood Hazard Area will achieve “no net loss.”

Communities must report to FEMA on their implementation of interim measures.

In addition to the above measures, as of August 1, 2024, FEMA is temporarily suspending processing applications for Letters of Map Revision based on Fill (LOMR-Fs) and Conditional Letters of Map Revision based on Fill (CLOMR-Fs) in NFIP communities to avoid potentially negative effects on ESA-listed species.

FEMA is here to support your community.

FEMA is offering several resources to assist communities in preparing for the Oregon NFIP-ESA Implementation Plan.

- **Informational Webinars (Summer 2024):** Learn about what FEMA is doing to revise the Implementation Plan and receive an introduction to the PICMs.
- **Questionnaire (Summer 2024):** Share what floodplain management measures your community is currently implementing to comply with the ESA, which PICMs you’re most interested in, and what support you need. Your feedback will help us plan the fall workshops and identify needs for technical assistance.
- **Workshops (Fall 2024):** Get an in-depth look at PICMs and talk through questions and concerns with FEMA staff.
- **Technical Assistance (Begins in Fall 2024):** Get support from FEMA to begin implementing PICMs.

Learn more and participate

Visit www.fema.gov/about/organization/region-10/oregon/nfip-esa-integration to read the latest information about NFIP-ESA Integration in Oregon.

You can also contact us at FEMA-R10-MIT-PICM@fema.dhs.gov