HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESPONSE METHODOLOGY

Based on the Katrina Model
Purpose of the Methodology Document

- To document the cultural resource disaster response implemented by FEMA following Hurricane Katrina
- To explain how the strategy could be adapted to other locations in response to other types and sizes of disasters
- To provide examples of how to utilize technological tools such as GIS and GPS to more efficiently comply with the NHPA, Section 106, and promote resource stewardship
- To provide a framework and guide for executing the methodology described

Contents of the Methodology Document

- A description of the draft Federal-agency wide cultural resource spatial data standards under construction at the NPS and their critical role in forming a good data foundation to assist in data sharing during the disaster
- A description of the technology used in the methodology (GIS and GPS)
- A description of strategy implemented by FEMA, including:
  - Creating infrastructure with FEMA field offices to support the strategy
  - Survey procedures, data collection and processing techniques
  - Procedures to develop concurrence regarding National Register eligibility status of resources using GIS
  - Implementing innovative treatment measures using new technologies to create new forms of documentation
- A description of the challenges, lessons learned and potential solutions developed
- A description of how to apply and adapt the strategy in other disaster circumstances
- A description of how to apply the same methodology to comply with other regulations, such as the National Environmental Policy Act
- A glossary of terms and technological concepts used in the methodology
- A series of detailed documents and tools for use in implementing the methodology, including: data models, data dictionaries, training materials, workflow diagrams, field forms and checklists

The Intended Use of the Methodology Document

- To serve as an example of a successful large-scale cultural resource disaster response, explaining how technology contributed to the ultimately positive outcome, for reference and comparison purposes
- To provide an outline for how the strategy described can be adapted to meet the needs of other disasters, other emergency management agencies, and other Federal agencies required to comply with the NHPA and other historic preservation regulations
- To present the tools, references, contacts and information needed to execute the strategy
Historic Preservation Response Methodology
Based on the Katrina Model

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the Gulf Coast region in August and September 2005 and created the single largest disaster for cultural resources that the United States has witnessed since the inception of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in 1966.

Although causing a great deal of damage, the event provided an important learning tool in developing processes, identifying challenges and generating solutions in responding to extensive cultural resource issues during a disaster.

The Historic Preservation Response Methodology document describes the cultural resource disaster response strategy implemented by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, with the assistance of the National Park Service, providing a successful example of how technology can improve Federal agency compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA during a disaster.

The Methodology document supplies a framework and guide for executing the strategy, provides the necessary tools for FEMA, other emergency management agencies and other Federal agencies to implement a similar digital Section 106 compliance approach.

For More Information or a Copy of the Methodology Document

Cultural Resource GIS Facility
Heritage Documentation Programs
National Park Service
1849 C Street, NW 2270
Washington, DC 20240
202-354-2135
http://www.nps.gov/history/hdp/crgis/

Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation
Federal Emergency Management Agency
US Department of Homeland Security
800 South Bell Street
Arlington, VA 20908-3020
202-646-2500