**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TEAM**

| DESCRIPTION | The Environmental Health Team assesses, identifies, recommends, and implements solutions or corrective actions for environmental health hazards and threats to human health and safety in water, food, waste, soil, debris, air (indoor and outdoor), vectors and pests, shelters, building environments, and other environmental health-related areas during an incident |
| RESOURCE CATEGORY | Medical and Public Health |
| RESOURCE KIND | Team |
| **OVERALL FUNCTION** | The Environmental Health Team:  
1. Activates for environmental health and safety protection, response, and recovery operations  
2. Assesses post-disaster environmental hazards and threats to human health and safety  
3. Monitors post-disaster environmental health and safety conditions in water, food, waste, soil, debris, air, shelters, building environments, and other environmental health-related areas  
4. Assesses post-incident disease hazards and threats in vector and pest populations, such as mosquitoes and rodents, and recommends and implements corrective actions or control measures |
| **COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS** | 1. Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment  
2. This team typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days  
3. Requestor and provider discuss appropriate equipment for response based on incident needs  
4. Requestor orders specialized Environmental Health personnel as necessary, such as Certified Industrial Hygienist (CH), Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Registered Hazardous Substances Specialist (RHSS), and Certified Professional-Food Safety (CP-FS), or Registered Sanitarian (RS).  
5. Requestor orders a Type 1 Environmental Health Specialist based on specialties necessary for the incident, such as water assessment, analysis, and treatment; food safety assessment; vector control and pest management; shelter assessment; debris management; and other environmental health specialties  
6. Requestor orders additional Environmental Health Specialists based on incident needs within span of control  
7. Requestor provides the number, source, and type of environmental health supplies and equipment necessary based on the assessment and mission requirements of the Environmental Health Team Leader  
8. This team does not have capabilities to support incidents involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)  
9. This team is focused on human health issues; it coordinates or refers plant, animal, and other environmental health issues with appropriate agencies in the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) |

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>SINGLE TYPE</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EQUIPMENT PER TEAM COMMUNICATION</strong></td>
<td>Appropriate team communications, such as two-way radios, cell phones, or satellite phone</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **EQUIPMENT PER TEAM ELECTRONICS** | 4 - Laptop or tablet computer  
2 - Global Positioning System (GPS)  
1 - Wireless data capability | Not Specified |
| **EQUIPMENT PER TEAM IDENTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS** | Specialized environmental health equipment and supplies. | Environmental health equipment is hazard and mission-specific, and may include environmental sampling equipment such as containers, media, filters, air sampling pumps, calibrators, and mosquito and tick collection and monitoring equipment. |
### Resource Typing Definition for Environmental Response/Health and Safety

**Medical and Public Health**

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<tr>
<td><strong>MATERIALS PER TEAM REFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>Print and electronic reference materials and databases relevant to the incident</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PERSONNEL PER TEAM MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT</strong></td>
<td>1 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Environmental Health Team Leader</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PERSONNEL PER TEAM MINIMUM</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PERSONNEL PER TEAM SUPPORT</strong></td>
<td>2 - NIMS Type 1 or Type 2 Environmental Health Specialist 1 - NIMS Public Health Data Entry Specialist</td>
<td>A NIMS Type 1 Environmental Health Specialist may replace a NIMS Type 2 Environmental Health Specialist to support a specific area of expertise.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
NOTES
1. Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.
2. Requestor provides team with support, such as security, fuel, and power for recharging phones, computers, and other rechargeable devices.
3. This team relies on the AHJ for technical support, such as plume modeling, air and water dispersion modeling, and toxicology, as necessary.
4. Incident command may ask teams to coordinate environmental health response and recovery activities with local, state, tribal, territorial, and Federal agencies.

REFERENCES
1. FEMA, NIMS 509: Environmental Health Team Leader
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Environmental Health Specialist
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Public Health Data Entry Specialist
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Registered Nurse