

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	<p>The Environmental Health Team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 (CIH), 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.

COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
EQUIPMENT PER TEAM COMMUNICATIONS	Appropriate team communications, such as two-way radios, cell phones, or satellite phone	Not Specified
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.

COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	PPE is hazard and mission-specific, and may include: 1. Air purifying respirators (APR) 2. Select APR cartridges 3. Eye protection equipment 4. Hearing protection equipment 5. Disposable or chemical-resistant gloves 6. Liquid splash-protective, chemical-protective, or other dermal-protective clothing	The following regulations address PPE: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment, OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, and OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection.
MATERIALS PER TEAM REFERENCE	Print and electronic reference materials and databases relevant to the incident	Not Specified
PERSONNEL PER TEAM MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT	1 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Environmental Health Team Leader	Not Specified
PERSONNEL PER TEAM MINIMUM	4	Not Specified
PERSONNEL PER TEAM SUPPORT	2 - NIMS Type 1 or Type 2 Environmental Health Specialist 1 - NIMS Public Health Data Entry Specialist	A NIMS Type 1 Environmental Health Specialist may replace a NIMS Type 2 Environmental Health Specialist to support a specific area of expertise.

Superseded



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
5. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, latest edition adopted
6. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment, latest edition adopted
7. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection, latest edition adopted

Superseded