

### **6.1.12 SOP No. 12: Emergency Procedures in the Event of Natural or Other Disasters**

NPR 8510.1 requires an SOP for emergency procedures in the event of natural or other disasters. This SOP should be initiated in the event of emergencies such as wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, and earthquakes, that affect NHLs; buildings and structures eligible for or listed in the NRHP either individually or as part of historic districts; buildings and structures that are over 50 years in age that have not been evaluated for NRHP eligibility; and buildings or structures that may have exceptional significance in accordance with Section 110 of NHPA.

#### ***Applicable Laws/Regulations/Procedural Requirements***

- Section 106 of NHPA
- National Environmental Policy Act for federally supported actions that require it
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings
- 36 CFR Part 800
- 40 CFR Part 1500–1508
- NASA Procedural Requirement 8510.1

#### ***Policy***

- The overall goal is to work to protect standing built resources within an emergency response setting. If buildings are threatened by any number of potential natural or man-made disasters, responses to emergencies and all planning for emergency response related to built resources at ARC will be carried out in accordance with all statutory applications. Emergency procedures will be initiated as required by the situation. Emergencies include earthquakes, fire, flood, vandalism, and acts of nature, such as falling trees. Emergency personnel, including fire and police, should be contacted as appropriate to the situation, and the HPO should be informed of the nature and location of the emergency as soon as possible.
- It should be noted that immediate rescue and salvage operations conducted to preserve life or property are exempt from the provisions of NHPA.

#### ***Procedures***

- I. NASA Center organizational elements, including the Emergency Operations Center, tenants, and other parties identified by the Center Director must:
  - A. Contact the HPO immediately to determine whether any built resources are present within the affected area.

- B. Coordinate with the HPO if the area has resources so they can be identified and avoided or stabilized where possible. All reasonable efforts should be made to avoid or minimize disturbance to any significant built resources.
  - C. Coordinate with the HPO to implement emergency stabilization measures to protect the historic property and to preserve historic fabric and features. In general, emergency stabilization measures include short-term and reversible repairs that do not harm historic fabric or features.
  - D. Personnel conducting these activities should communicate with the HPO regarding potential effects to significant built resources that could occur in association with such activities.
  - E. Review SOP No. 8 for inadvertent discovery of cultural material.
- II. To ensure salvage or avoidance of built resources to the maximum extent possible in an emergency situation, the HPO must:
- A. Check immediately to determine what, if any, buildings could be affected by the emergency.
  - B. Provide the Center Director and the Emergency Operations Center with necessary information about buildings so they can be protected/avoided, etc.
  - C. If an inadvertent discovery of cultural material is found during the emergency, review Section 5.2.8 of this ICRMP and follow SOP No. 4. Follow these procedures to the maximum extent possible.
- III. The HPO will inform SHPO of the nature of the emergency affecting historic properties and of stabilization measures.
- IV. Once the building has been stabilized and the immediate emergency operation completed, the HPO will initiate permanent repairs to be carried out in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.

### ***Other Considerations***

NHPA provides for expedited review for actions that an agency proposes within 30 days of an emergency, which is defined as "a disaster or emergency declared by the President, a tribal government, or the Governor of a State or which respond to other immediate threats to life or property." In such cases, the HPO can request that the agencies and parties to consultation reply in 7 days or less. Notification may be verbal, followed by written communication. ARC may request an extension of the period of applicability from ACHP prior to expiration of the 30 days. The HPO will ensure that all personnel involved in the project are briefed regarding the protocol to be followed in the case of the inadvertent discovery of cultural resources during emergency operations (SOP No. 8).