



SOUTHERN REVIEW

OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ACTIONS

U.S. ARMY REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL & ENERGY OFFICE (REEO)

The *Review* is published by the U.S. Army Regional Environmental and Energy Office. The information in this publication is a monthly selection of notices compiled from official state and federal government resources.

Covering the eight states in Standard Federal Region 4, the *Southern Review* provides early notice of environmental and environmentally related legislative and regulatory activities relevant to DOD interests that may impact military installations. For installations that implement an environmental management system in accordance with ISO 14001 specifications, the content of the *Review* helps them identify emerging requirements.

To read back issues of this or other Army REEO *Reviews*, or to receive a monthly electronic copy, send an [email request](#).



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NFWF ANNOUNCES RELEASE OF THE NATIONAL COASTAL RESILIENCE FUND 2023 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Source: [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#)

On 16 FEB 23, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced the release of the 2023 Request for Proposals for the National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF). The NCRF provides grant funding to restore and strengthen “natural coastal infrastructure”—like salt marshes, coral reefs, and beach dunes—that provide a first line of defense for coastal communities and ecosystems from increasing impacts due to rising sea levels and more intense storms.

NCRF is a public-private partnership between NFWF, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Department of Defense, Shell USA, TransRe and Oxy. This year, the NCRF’s second year of receiving increased funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, NFWF expects to invest approximately \$140 million in grants to support nature-based coastal resilience solutions.

The NCRF focuses on projects that increase protection for communities from coastal hazards, such as flooding and erosion, while also enhancing coastal habitats that are vital for fish and wildlife. NFWF also prioritizes projects that address the disproportionate risks faced by communities on the frontlines of climate change and projects that are community led or incorporate direct community engagement.

The demand for NCRF funding continues to outpace need as coastal communities and ecosystems face increasing threats. Property damage to homes, businesses, and infrastructure across coastal regions are soaring as the U.S. continues to experience more intense storms, heavier rainfall events, and rising sea levels driving nuisance flooding.

Since its creation in 2018, the NCRF has awarded nearly \$278 million in grant funding to support 270 projects across 29 coastal states and territories. These grants have leveraged more than \$301 million in funding and delivered a total conservation impact of \$579 million over five years. From inception, the NCRF has invested in projects that will restore more than 13,000 acres of wetlands, reconnect more than 23,000 acres of floodplain, and rebuild more than 370 acres of oyster and coral reefs, all of which are contributing to healthier and more resilient coastal communities and ecosystems. These locally led projects are aligned with the administration’s conservation goals. NCRF is a successful public-private partnership that has demonstrated how investments in conservation are addressing climate and biodiversity challenges in coastal communities.

NCRF pre-proposals are due 12 APR 23. The full Request for Proposals can be found [here](#).

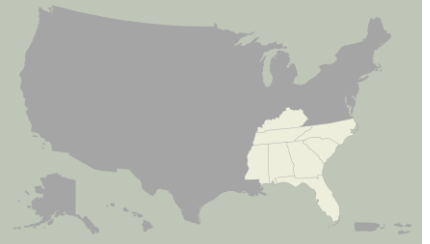
Projects must be located within the coastal areas of U.S. coastal states, including the Great Lakes states, and U.S. territories including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

For additional information about the NCRF please visit [here](#).

REGION 4

For more information or to comment on any state issue in Region 4, contact [Ruth Forrester](#), (404) 562-5231.

ALABAMA
FLORIDA
GEORGIA
KENTUCKY
MISSISSIPPI
NORTH CAROLINA
SOUTH CAROLINA
TENNESSEE



ALABAMA

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 3 MAR 23 THROUGH 14 MAY 23

HB 20, SHORELINE RESTORATION. The bill provides for permits for shoreline restoration, including the use of living shoreline techniques, by riparian property owners in coastal areas. The bill authorizes riparian property owners to sever and use materials in their riparian rights use area for the purposes of shoreline restoration for a fee of one-half of that charged by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources or the Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) for constructing bulkheads or seawalls when the source sediment is used for the construction of living shorelines in front of a property owner's riparian property. The bill was introduced 8 FEB 23.

HB 36, ADVANCED RECYCLING. The bill would define advanced recycling as a manufacturing process to convert post-use materials such as plastics into recycled products and specifies that advanced recycling at an advanced recycling facility would not be considered solid waste disposal or incineration under the Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Management Act. This bill would also define mill scale and slag and include the term in the definition of solid waste. The bill was introduced 24 FEB 23.

HB 44, ALABAMA JOB CREATION AND MILITARY STABILITY COMMISSION. The bill adds one retired member from Fort Benning to the Alabama Job Creation and Military Stability Commission. The bill was introduced 24 FEB 23.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

REISSUANCE OF GENERAL NPDES PERMIT ALG40000. ADEM has [issued](#) notice of an opportunity to comment regarding the proposed reissuance of General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit ALG640000. The permit regulates discharges of filter backwash, sedimentation basin wash water, and decant water from water treatment plants discharging to waters of the state of Alabama. Discharges from water treatment plants that use ion-exchange or reverse osmosis are not covered by this general permit. Comments are due 11 MAR 23.



FLORIDA

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 7 MAR 23 THROUGH 5 MAY 23

SB 734, SALTWATER INTRUSION VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT. The bill authorizes the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to provide grants to coastal counties for saltwater intrusion vulnerability assessments. The bill also requires the department to update the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set and make certain information received from the saltwater intrusion vulnerability assessments available on its website. The bill was introduced 13 FEB 23.

SB 742, ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES. The bill would require that a notice of withdrawal be published in the next available issue of the Florida Administrative Register, require an agency to provide a copy of a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative to the committee within a certain timeframe, require agency review of rules and repromulgation of rules that do not require substantive changes within a specified timeframe, and require FDEP and water management districts to conduct a holistic review of certain permitting processes. The bill was introduced 14 FEB 23.

HB 527 (SB 1484), OFFICE OF THE BLUE ECONOMY. The bill establishes the Office of the Blue Economy providing for the duties of the office and would require the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to conduct biennial evaluation of blue economy for inclusion in certain assessments. The bill was introduced 7 FEB 23.

HB 691, RECYCLING OF COVERED ELECTRONIC DEVICES. The bill establishes a statewide covered electronic device recovery program within FDEP, authorizing FDEP to use specified funds to administer program; and prohibits any person from disposing of covered electronic devices except at permitted reclamation facility beginning on specified dates; provides civil penalties; authorizes such penalties to be waived under certain conditions. The bill was introduced 9 FEB 23.

HB 739, DISPOSAL OF FOOD WASTE MATERIAL. The bill provides legislative recommendations on the feasibility of a pilot program to require food outlets, food service establishments, schools or other educational facilities, and businesses to recycle food waste materials and the most efficient method to accomplish the goal of redirecting the disposal of food waste materials in landfills. The bill was introduced 10 FEB 23.

HB 835, PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY BY PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. The bill prohibits the People's Republic of China from purchasing or acquiring real property and strategic assets in the state located within 50 miles of a military base. The bill was introduced 15 FEB 23.

HB 847, FLOATING VESSEL PLATFORM AND FLOATING BOAT LIFTS. The bill provides that specified structures associated with docks on parcels of land creates presumption of compliance with certain environmental impact requirements. The bill was introduced 15 FEB 23.

HB 915, SHARED-USE NONMOTORIZED TRAIL NETWORK. The bill authorizes FDEP to establish a program to recognize specified local communities as trail towns, increases the membership of the Florida Greenways and Trails Council, and revises the general powers of the department to include development and dissemination of criteria for prioritization of regionally significant trails within or connected to the Florida wildlife corridor. The bill was introduced 15 FEB 23.

HB 957 (SB 970), STATE RENEWABLE ENERGY GOALS. The bill prohibits drilling or exploration for, or production of, oil, gas, or other petroleum products and permitting of certain related structures. The bill also requires statewide renewable energy electricity and carbon emission reductions, directs the Office of Energy within Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (DACS) to develop a unified statewide plan, and creates the Renewable Energy Advisory Committee. The bill was introduced 20 FEB 23.

SB 724, SEAGRASS RESTORATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE. The bill establishes the Seagrass Restoration Technology Development Initiative within FDEP and provides for funding. The bill also requires the creation of a 10-year Florida Seagrass Restoration Plan and establishes the Initiative Technology Advisory Council. The bill was introduced 13 FEB 23.

SB 880, BIOSOLIDS. The bill authorizes FDEP to provide grants within the wastewater grant program for projects that convert wastewater residuals to biosolids and prohibits the department from authorizing land application site permits for Class B biosolids unless a certain demonstration can be made. The bill was introduced 16 FEB 23.

SB 912, TOXIC MOLD PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL. The bill creates the Toxic Mold Protection Advisory Council adjunct to the Department of Health, providing for the purpose, membership, meetings, and duties of the council. The bill was introduced 17 FEB 23.

HB 979 (SB 1072), DEEPWATER PORT DREDGING. The bill directs FDEP to require habitat equivalency analysis to determine the adverse impacts of the dredging activity on the natural habitat, as condition of permits issued for maintenance dredging of Deepwater ports, provides requirements for conducting analysis, and requires local government to provide specified notice. The bill was introduced 21 FEB 23.

HB 423, ONSITE SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL SYSTEMS. The bill implements a recommendation of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force and requires owners of certain on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems to have systems inspected and requires FDEP to administer program. The bill also requires estimated pollutant load reductions in basin management action plans to meet or exceed total maximum daily load requirements, revises requirements for allocation of such reductions, requires plans to provide and reevaluate certain mitigation and elimination strategies. The bill was introduced 21 FEB 23.

HB 553, STATE RECOGNITION OF INDIAN TRIBES AND BANDS. The bill provides for state recognition of specified Indian tribes and bands authorizing Indian tribes and bands to petition the Secretary of State for state recognition. The bill authorizes the Secretary of State to review petitions and make recommendations to Legislature. The bill was introduced 7 FEB 23.

SB 498, PREEMPTION OF RECYCLABLE AND POLYSTYRENE MATERIALS. The bill removes the preemption of local laws regarding the regulation of auxiliary containers, wrappings, or disposable plastic bags, and removing the preemption of local laws regarding the use or sale of polystyrene products to the DACs. The bill was introduced 2 FEB 23.

SB 506, COMPREHENSIVE WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING PLAN. The bill requires FDEP to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan based on department recommendations and requires the department to convene a technical assistance group. The bill was introduced 3 FEB 23.

HB 713, ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES. The bill provides provisions relating to rule development, notices, public workshops, publication, timeframes, materials incorporated by reference, statements of estimated regulatory costs, adverse impacts on small businesses, public hearings, lower cost regulatory alternatives, and annual regulatory plans. The bill requires agency review of rules and repromulgation of rules that do not require substantive changes within specified timeframe and would require FDEP and water management districts to conduct review of certain permitting processes and programs. The bill was introduced 10 FEB 23.

HB 1217 (SB 1238), ENERGY REGULATION. The bill requires determinations on building new energy generating facilities to take certain factors into consideration and prohibits local governmental entities from requiring or prohibiting certain building materials, vehicles, or home heating elements. The bill was introduced 27 FEB 23.

HB 1229 (SB 1298), ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES. The bill directs the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to protect endangered or threatened species, regardless of status of their federal classification. The bill also directs the department, in consultation with Endangered Plant Advisory Council, to protect certain endangered or threatened species, and reenacts laws relating to site-specific location information for endangered and threatened species and prohibitions relating to Florida panther. The bill was introduced 28 FEB 23.

SB 1176, ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE. The bill requires the Public Service Commission to adopt rules for electric vehicle charging stations which meet certain requirements. The rules must ensure consumer choice and competition, provide for reasonable and affordable cost-based electric rates for public utility rate payers, and be competitively neutral and apply to public utilities offering electric vehicle charging station services to the public. The bill was introduced 28 FEB 23.

HB 1003, FILL MATERIAL FOR RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES. The bill requires FDEP to approve reclamation and restoration activities on sovereignty submerged lands involving specified fill material. The bill was introduced 21 FEB 23.

HB 1209, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY. The bill provides for several various provisions pertaining the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) including: (1) renaming the Florida Defense Support Task Force to the Florida Defense Support Council; (2) requiring the Secretary of Economic Opportunity to appoint deputy secretaries and directors for specified divisions of

DEO; (3) amending the Rural Economic Development Initiative grant program; and (4) revising areas in which DEO may provide grants through Everglades Restoration Agricultural Community Employment Training Program. The bill was introduced 27 FEB 23.

HB 1336, DISPOSAL OF FOOD WASTE MATERIALS STUDY. The bill directs FDEP to conduct a study on the disposal of food waste materials and submit a report to the Legislature. The bill was introduced 1 MAR 23.

SB 7002, RATIFICATION OF RULES FOR THE FDEP. The bill ratifies specified rules relating to standards for on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems and for domestic wastewater facility planning for facilities expansion, collection and transmission systems, and an operation and maintenance manual for the sole and exclusive purpose of satisfying any condition on effectiveness pursuant to s. 120.541(3), F.S. The bill was introduced 13 FEB 23.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

There are no significant regulatory activities to report.



GEORGIA

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 9 JAN 23 THROUGH 30 MAY 23

HB 336, WASTE MANAGEMENT. The bill provides that no provision of the Georgia state minimum standard codes shall prohibit the use of a refrigerant that is, or, as of 1 JUL 23, was approved for use pursuant to the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 7671, so long as any equipment containing such refrigerant is listed and installed in accordance with any safety standard or use condition. The bill was introduced 13 FEB 23.

SB 120, SAFE OPERATION OF MOTOR CARRIERS. The bill updates the reference date to federal regulations regarding the safe operation of motor carriers and commercial motor vehicles from 1 JAN 22 to 1 JAN 23. The bill was introduced 8 FEB 23.

SB 132, FOREIGN INVESTMENT NEAR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS. The bill provides for rules and regulations directing that no nonresident alien shall acquire directly or indirectly any possessory interest in agricultural land or land within a 25-mile radius of any military base, military installation, or military airport. The bill was introduced 9 FEB 23.

SB 146, ELECTRIC VEHICLES. The bill relates to the jurisdiction of and powers and duties of the Georgia Public Service Commission generally, selling, and other trade practices, and motor fuel tax, respectively, to provide for the regulation and taxation of the provision of certain electricity used as a motor fuel in electric vehicles. The bill was introduced 9 FEB 23.

HB 410, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS. The bill provides certain certification requirements for operators of water and wastewater treatment plants operators and laboratory analysts. The bill was introduced 14 FEB 23.

SB 210, HOMEGROWN SOLAR ACT OF 2023. The bill requires net metering to be offered by electric utilities that meet a certain renewable energy penetration threshold. The bill was introduced 16 FEB 23.

HB 435, LANDFILL PERMITTING. The bill revises limitations on permitting of landfills near significant groundwater recharge areas, prohibiting permitting of new landfills within 50 miles of existing landfills. The bill was introduced 15 FEB 23.

SB 167, ALTERNATIVE FUELS. The bill excludes the provision of electricity to propel motor vehicles through electric vehicle charging equipment from the regulatory authority of the Public Service Commission. The bill was introduced 17 FEB 23.

SB 251, CLEAN ENERGY. The bill prohibits governmental entities from restricting utility service connection or sale of fuels based on type and ability to choose utility service and requires the Public Service Commission to adopt regulations to gradually reduce, from

2025 to 2050, the carbon dioxide emissions from electric utilities. The bill would require all electricity provided by an electric utility in this state to be generated from clean energy sources by 2050. The bill was introduced 6 FEB 23.

HB 260, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMISSION. The bill creates the Environmental Justice Commission and requires all state entities to consider and report on environmental justice concerns prior to taking certain state actions. The bill was introduced 21 FEB 23.

HB 491, OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES. The bill provides for environmental justice requirements for applicants for certain environmental permits and provides for a list of overburdened communities. The bill was introduced 21 FEB 23.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

HUMAN HEALTH CRITERIA FOR 2022 TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF WATER QUALITY STANDARDS. The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has [issued](#) notice of a public meeting to explain and discuss the risk targets associated with the human health criteria updates that EPD is considering as part of the 2022 Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards. A public meeting will be held 15 MAR 23.

RULES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER. EPD has initiated [rulemaking](#) to amend specific provisions of Rule 391-3-5-.04, "Approval Required. Amended," to revise the title of the rule and to add a paragraph to address asset management plan requirements. A public hearing will be held and comments are due 27 MAR 23.



KENTUCKY

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 3 JAN 23 THROUGH 30 MAR 23

HB 306, RADON TESTING AT CHILD CARE CENTERS. The bill requires licensed child care centers to be tested for radon at least once every five years as part of their initial licensure and license renewal. The bill was filed 15 FEB 23.

SB 127, WATER FLUORIDATION PROGRAM. The bill would make water fluoridation programs optional and allow the governing bodies of water systems subject to regulation by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to decide whether they participate in water fluoridation programs. The bill was introduced 14 FEB 23.

SB 159, SAFE REFRIGERANT ALTERNATIVES. The bill permits the use of safe refrigerant alternatives if used in equipment listed and installed in accordance with safety standards. The bill was introduced 16 FEB 23.

HB 160, KENTUCKY POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM. The bill provides that any Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) permittee seeking to rely on a mixing zone for a bioaccumulative chemical concern assigned before 8 SEP 04, include information identifying the mixing zone in its application for a modification or approval of a KPDES permit. The bill was introduced 7 FEB 23.

HB 160, PFAS CHEMICALS. The bill requires the Energy and Environment Cabinet (KEEC) on or before 1 JAN 24 to promulgate administrative regulations establishing maximum per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) chemical limits and monitoring requirements for drinking water provided by public and semi-public water systems and maximum PFAS chemical limits and monitoring requirements for discharges into the waters of the Commonwealth. The bill was introduced 7 FEB 23.

SB 226, WATER QUALITY STANDARDS. The bill requires KEEC, when issuing permits under the Clean Water Act (CWA) for discharges into outstanding state resource waters, to presume that water quality will be maintained if the permittee complies with technology-based effluent limitations for its industry or with species-specific protection measures imposed on its operations by another state or federal agency. The bill was introduced 21 FEB 23.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

There are no significant regulatory activities to report.



MISSISSIPPI

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 3 JAN 23 THROUGH 3 APR 23

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

There are no significant regulatory activities to report.



NORTH CAROLINA

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 11 JAN 23 THROUGH 31 AUG 23

HB 177, DEQ OMNIBUS. The bill revises various statutes pertaining to: (1) coal combustion residual report revisions; (2) solid waste beneficial reuse determination provisions; (3) the Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments 1 (LASII) Fund; and (4) extends the limit on intergovernmental personnel act agreements. The bill was introduced 22 FEB 23.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

2023 NCAC POLICY REVISIONS. The Department of Insurance, Building Code Council has [proposed](#) various amendments to incorporate changes in the NC State Building Codes as a result of rulemaking petitions filed with the NC Building Code Council and to incorporate changes proposed by the Council. A public hearing will be held 14 MAR 23 and comments are due 17 APR 23.



SOUTH CAROLINA

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 10 JAN 23 THROUGH 11 MAY 23

HB 3934, FEDERAL MILITARY INSTALLATIONS. The bill adds Fort Gordon to the definition of federal military installations. The bill was filed 9 FEB 23.

HB 3934, SOLAR, AGRICULTURE, FARMLAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACT. The bill directs that no person shall commence to construct a photovoltaic energy facility on farmland without first having obtained a certificate issued with respect to that facility by the Public Service Commission. The bill also establishes certificate requirements for construction of photovoltaic energy facilities and provides requirements for hearings regarding the certificate application. The bill was filed 16 FEB 23.

HB 4047, ENDANGERED SPECIES RECORDS. The bill prohibits the release of records regarding the occurrence of rare, threatened, endangered, or imperiled plant and animal species by the Department of Natural Resources. The bill was filed 16 FEB 23.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

There are no significant regulatory activities to report.



TENNESSEE

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 10 JAN 23 THROUGH 4 MAY 23

HB 799 (SB 1377), 2018 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE. The bill requires that the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code published by the International Code Council be used for the minimum energy conservation standards for new residential construction. The bill was introduced 1 FEB 23.

HB 1025 (SB 1100), TENNESSEE MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS COMMISSION. The bill creates the Tennessee Monuments and Memorials Commission, which is required to study, hear, and resolve petitions for waiver under the Tennessee heritage protection act. The bill was introduced 1 FEB 23.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

There are no significant regulatory activities to report.

Federal Activity

AIR

EPA EXCLUDING HFO-133MZZ(E) FROM THE REGULATORY DEFINITION OF VOC. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a final rule revision to the regulatory definition of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) under the Clean Air Act (CAA). EPA added HFO-1336mzz(E) to the list of compounds excluded from the regulatory definition of VOC on the basis that this compound makes a negligible contribution to tropospheric ozone (O₃) formation ([88 FR 8226](#)). The final rule becomes effective 10 APR 23.

NSPS AND NESHAP REVIEW FOR LEAD ACID BATTERY MANUFACTURING PLANTS. EPA finalized standards of performance for New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for Lead Acid Battery Manufacturing Plants and the technology review for the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Lead Acid Battery Manufacturing Area Sources which limit atmospheric emissions of lead from new, modified, and reconstructed facilities at lead acid battery plants ([88 FR 11556](#)). The standards implement Section 111 of the CAA and are based on EPA's determination that lead acid battery manufacturing facilities contribute significantly to air pollution, which may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare. The final rule is effective 23 FEB 23.

ADDRESSING RADON IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has posted CPD-21-136 "*Departmental Policy for Addressing Radon in the Environmental Review Process*" on its website and invites comments on the proposed clarification that radon as a radioactive substance must be considered in the environmental review of proposed HUD-assisted projects ([88 FR 9301](#)). The purpose of CPD-21-136 is to clarify that radon must be considered in the contamination analysis for [24 CFR parts 50](#) or [58](#) and to provide guidance on recommended best practices for considering radon. The policy would apply to projects that: (1) require an environmental review at the level of *Categorically Excluded Subject to 50.4 or 58.5* ("CEST"), *Environmental Assessment*, or *Environmental Impact Statement*; and (2) involve structures that are occupied or are intended to be occupied at least four hours a day. Comments are due 14 APR 23.

NESHAP MISCELLANEOUS COATING MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY REVIEW. EPA is taking final action on the technology review conducted on the Miscellaneous Coating Manufacturing (MCM) source category regulated under the NESHAP ([88 FR 10842](#)). These final amendments include provisions for inorganic hazardous air pollutant (HAP) standards for process vessels. This final rule is effective 22 FEB 23.

CLIMATE CHANGE

DRAFT INVENTORY OF U.S. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND SINKS: 1990-2021. The EPA released and seeks public review of the Draft Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2021 ([88 FR 9881](#)). EPA requests recommendations for improving the overall quality of the inventory report to be finalized in APR 23, as well as subsequent inventory reports. Annual U.S. emissions from 1990 through 2021 are summarized and presented by sector, including source and sink categories. The inventory contains estimates of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFC), perfluorocarbons (PFC), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃) emissions. The increase in total GHG was driven largely by an increase in CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion. Comments are due 17 MAR 23.

ENERGY

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROPOSED SALE NOTICE. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) proposes to offer one or more lease areas for commercial wind power development on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) in the Gulf of Mexico ([88 FR 11939](#)). The lease areas are located in the previously identified wind energy areas (WEA) offshore Lake Charles, LA, and Galveston, TX. This proposed sales notice contains information pertaining to the areas available for leasing, certain lease provisions and conditions, auction details, criteria for evaluating competing bids, and procedures for lease award, appeals, and lease execution. BOEM proposes simultaneous auctions for the lease areas within each WEA using a multiple factor bidding format. Any lease resulting from this sale does not constitute approval of any offshore wind energy facilities. Lessees must submit project-specific plans to BOEM for approval before starting construction of an OCS wind energy facility. BOEM will subject such plans to environmental, technical, and public reviews prior to deciding whether the proposed development should be authorized. Comments are due 25 APR 23.

WAIVER OF BUY AMERICA REQUIREMENTS FOR EV CHARGERS. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is establishing a temporary waiver to waive Buy America requirements for steel, iron, manufactured products, and construction materials in EV chargers ([88 FR 10619](#)). FHWA issued a Notice of Proposed Waiver of Buy America Requirements for EV Chargers on 31 AUG 22 ([87 FR 53539](#)). FHWA is now making several changes to the timeline in the final waiver, allowing manufacturers additional time to domestically source components for their EV chargers. This temporary waiver enables EV charger acquisition and installation to immediately proceed while ensuring the application of Buy America to EV chargers by phasing out of the waiver over time. The waiver will apply to all EV chargers manufactured by 1 JUL 24 whose final assembly occurs in the U.S. and whose installation has begun by 1 OCT 24. Beginning with EV chargers manufactured on 1 JUL 24, FHWA will phase out coverage under this waiver for those EV chargers where the cost of components manufactured in the U.S. does not exceed 55% of the cost of all components. For any areas, products, or materials excluded from this waiver, FHWA's existing Buy America requirements and policies will continue to apply. FHWA will revisit this waiver and determine whether there is continued need for it within 5 years from the effective date of this notice. The temporary waiver will go into effect on 23 MAR 23.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

TAKING MARINE MAMMALS INCIDENTAL TO TESTING AND TRAINING OPERATIONS IN THE EGLIN GULF TEST AND TRAINING. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has received a request from the U.S. Department of the Air Force (USAF) to take marine mammals incidental to proposed testing and training military operations in the Eglin Gulf Test and Training Range (EGTTR) from 2023 to 2030 in the Gulf of Mexico ([88 FR 8146](#)). Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue regulations and subsequent Letter of Authorization (LOA) to the USAF to incidentally take marine mammals during the specified activities. NMFS will consider public comments prior to issuing any final rule and making final decisions on the issuance

of the requested LOA. The USAF's activities qualify as military readiness activities pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004. Comments were due 9 MAR 23.

GRIZZLY BEAR. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced three 90-day findings on petitions to delist the grizzly bear in the lower 48 states. One petition request delisting the grizzly bear in the lower 48 states, and the other two petitions request delisting populations in two specific ecosystems ([88 FR 7658](#)). The state of Idaho's petition (9 MAR 22) requests that FWS delist the grizzly bear in the lower 48 states. FWS finds that the state of Idaho's petition does not provide substantial information that the petitioned action may be warranted. The state of Montana's petition (17 DEC 21) requests that FWS designate and delist a Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE) distinct population segment (DPS) of the grizzly bear in the lower 48 states. The NCDE occurs only in Montana. The state of Wyoming's petition (21 JAN 22) requests that FWS designate and delist a Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) DPS of the grizzly bear in the lower 48 states. The GYE occurs in portions of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho.

REVISING TAKING ENHANCEMENT OF SURVIVAL AND INCIDENTAL TAKE. FWS proposed revising the regulations concerning the issuance of enhancement of survival and incidental take permits under the Endangered Species Act ([88 FR 8380](#)). The purposes of these revisions are to: (1) clarify the appropriate use of enhancement of survival permits and incidental take permits; (2) clarify its authority to issue these permits for non-listed species without also including a listed species; (3) simplify the requirements for enhancement of survival permits by combining safe harbor agreements and candidate conservation agreements with assurances into one agreement type; and (4) include portions of its five-point policies for safe harbor agreements, candidate conservation agreements with assurances, and habitat conservation plans in the regulations to reduce uncertainty. FWS also proposed making technical and administrative revisions to the regulations. Comments are due 10 APR 23.

ADDING SPECIES TO THE PROTOCOL ANNEXES OF SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS AND WILDLIFE IN THE WIDER CARIBBEAN. The Department of State and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) are soliciting comments on the nominations to add 24 species to the Annexes of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol ([88 FR 9489](#)). The SPAW Protocol is a protocol to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region. There are currently 18 countries that are Parties to the SPAW Protocol from throughout the Wider Caribbean Region, U.S. included. The United States' responsibility within this Convention area includes: (1) U.S. waters off of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and peninsular Florida, including the Atlantic coast; (2) the waters off of a number of islands including coastal barrier islands and the Florida Keys; and (3) the Gulf of Mexico waters under U.S. jurisdiction. Annex I contains 53 plant species, Annex II contains 117 species and 3 groups of species, including all sea turtles and all marine mammals in the region, and Annex III contains 43 species of plants and 42 species of animals in addition to species of corals, mangroves, and seagrasses that occur in the region. The Department of State and NMFS solicit comments and information that will inform U.S. consideration of the potential listing of these species in the SPAW Annexes. Comments are due 16 MAR 23.

SOUTHEAST U.S. DPS OF THE WOOD STORK. FWS proposed removing the Southeast U.S. distinct population segments (DPS) of the wood stork (*Mycteria americana*) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery ([88 FR 9830](#)). This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial data, which indicate that this wood stork DPS has recovered and the threats to it are being adequately managed such that the DPS no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or threatened species. There are currently over 100 colonies spread throughout the Southeast U.S. DPS of the wood stork's historical range and beyond, making it unlikely that a single catastrophic event could threaten the existence of the species in this DPS, and indicating that redundancy in the wood stork population is adequate. Comments are due 17 APR 23.

SPOTTED OWL. FWS has proposed to list two distinct population segments of the California spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis occidentalis*), a bird species from California and Nevada, under the ESA ([88 FR 11600](#)). This determination also serves as FWS's 12-month finding on a petition to list the California spotted owl. After a review of the best available scientific and commercial information, FWS finds that listing the Coastal-Southern California DPS as endangered is warranted, and that listing the Sierra Nevada DPS as threatened is warranted. Comments are due 24 APR 23.

NEPA

NEPA GUIDANCE ON CONSIDERATION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND CLIMATE CHANGE. On 9 JAN 23, the Council on Environmental

Quality (CEQ) issued National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Guidance on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change, interim guidance to assist agencies in analyzing greenhouse gas and climate change effects of their proposed actions under NEPA and requested public comment for 60 days on the guidance ([88 FR 1196](#)). This notice extends the period for receiving public comments by 30 days to provide the public with additional time to provide feedback ([88 FR 10097](#)). The comment deadline is extended to 10 APR 23.

TOXICS

AVAILABILITY OF THE PROTOCOL FOR THE ETHYLBENZENE IRIS ASSESSMENT. EPA announced a 30-day public comment period associated with release of the document, Protocol for the Ethylbenzene Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Assessment ([88 FR 10320](#)). This document communicates the rationale for conducting the IRIS assessment of ethylbenzene, describes screening criteria to identify relevant literature, outlines the approach for evaluating study quality, and describes the methods for dose-response analysis. Ethylbenzene is a colorless, flammable liquid with a sweet, gasoline-like odor. It is naturally found in products such as coal tar and crude petroleum. Ethylbenzene is primarily used as a chemical intermediate to produce styrene. In smaller quantities, ethylbenzene is also used as a solvent in common products like rubber, inks, insecticides, paints, and in fuels. Comments are due 20 MAR 23.

FORMALDEHYDE EMISSION STANDARDS FOR COMPOSITE WOOD PRODUCTS. EPA has updated the formaldehyde standards for composite wood products regulations under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) that have since been updated, superseded, or withdrawn by the issuing organizations ([88 FR 10468](#)). This final rule is issued in response to prior notices of proposed rulemaking (87 FR 17963 and 87 FR 57432) issued in 2022. Specifically, EPA is: (1) updating incorporation-by-reference for certain voluntary consensus standards; (2) conforming voluntary consensus standards in scope and definitions; (3) increasing flexibility for third-party certifier certification process; (4) addressing remote inspections in limited circumstances; and (5) improving regulatory consistency through technical corrections waste. The final rule is effective 23 MAR 23.

PFAS REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT. EPA is facilitating a series of virtual community engagement sessions in 2023 for each of EPA's 10 regions. This engagement session will provide information about EPA's ongoing work on PFAS under the PFAS Strategic Roadmap. Session dates and registration information can be found [here](#).

WATER

DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANT CANDIDATE LIST NOMINATIONS. EPA has requested nominations of chemicals, microbes, or other substances that are not currently regulated in drinking water for possible inclusion on the Sixth Contaminant Candidate List (CCL 6). EPA requests that nominations include information showing the nominated contaminant is known or anticipated to occur in public water systems and indicating the nominated contaminant may have an adverse health effect on humans ([88 FR 10316](#)). The CCL is a list of contaminants that are currently not subject to any proposed or promulgated national primary drinking water regulations, that are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems, and which may require regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The Fifth Contaminant Candidate List (CCL5) was published on 14 NOV 22 ([87 FR 68060](#)), and includes 66 chemicals, 3 chemical groups (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), cyanotoxins, and disinfection byproducts (DBPs), and 12 microbes, which were selected from a universe of chemicals used in commerce, pesticides, biological toxins, disinfection byproducts, and waterborne pathogens. Nominations must be received by 18 APR 23.

CLEAN WATER ACT METHODS UPDATE RULE FOR THE ANALYSIS OF EFFLUENT. EPA has proposed updates to its test procedures for analyzing wastewater and other samples for reporting under the NPDES permit program, increasing flexibility for the regulated community and improving data quality ([88 FR 10724](#)). This proposed update would incorporate technological advances in analytical technology and make a series of minor changes and corrections to existing approved methods. Proposed revisions include: (1) new versions of previously approved EPA membrane filtration methods; (2) new versions of approved American Society for Testing and Materials methods; (3) new versions of approved standard methods in Tables IA, IB, IC, ID and IH for several parameters; (4) alternate test procedures in Table IC; (5) five new standard methods to Table IB based on previously approved technologies; and (6) corrections and amendments to the text and tables. Comments are due 24 APR 23.

Department of Defense Activity

PROPOSED DOD SITES PARTIAL DELETION FROM THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST. The EPA issued a Notice of Intent to delete three sites and partially delete eight sites from the National Priorities List (NPL) and requests public comments on this proposed action ([88 FR 10864](#)). The EPA and the states, through their designated state agency, have determined that all appropriate response actions under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) have been completed. However, this deletion does not preclude future actions under Superfund. Three Partial Deletions include: (1) Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, GA; (2) Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville AL; and (3) Tyndall Air Force Base, Panama City, FL. Comments are due 24 MAR 23.

ASA (IE&E), ARMY LEADERS, TEXAS GOVERNOR, SIGN LARGEST STATEWIDE SUPPORT AGREEMENT IN HISTORY. HON Rachel Jacobson, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy and Environment), and Army G-9 and Installation Management Command leaders, joined Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, state officials and sister-service partners Jan. 25 to sign the largest-ever statewide intergovernmental support agreement (IGSA) between a state and the Department of Defense. The agreement will modernize Army installations, save about \$4 million annually, and improve Soldiers' quality of life, leveraging roadway maintenance and repair via a public-private partnership. Learn more about the historic installation modernization partnership agreement [here](#).

LARGEST PRIVATE-PUBLIC COLLABORATION IN DOD HISTORY REFLECTS COMMITMENT TO CLEAN ENERGY. The 412th Test Wing unveiled a new solar facility on the northwest corner of Edwards Air Force Base, 2 FEB 23. The facility, built in collaboration with Terra-Gen LLC, is a result of the Edwards Solar Enhance Use Lease Project. The novel land management agreement marks the largest private – public partnership within the Department of Defense. The facility, which has almost 2 million solar panels installed, can produce up to 1,300 megawatts of power to the California Independent System Operator grid. This grid is estimated to power over 238,000 homes, displacing more than 320,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually. The solar array itself is the largest project of its kind in U.S. Air Force history. Under the Air Force's Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) program, special purpose entities managed by private developers such as Terra-Gen, LLC, incrementally leased and developed the property in exchange for cash or in-kind consideration at or above fair market value. The new EUL area comprises up to 4,000 acres of non-excess underutilized property at Edwards and surrounding private property. The Air Force Civil Engineer Center, a primary subordinate unit of the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center, managed the program. To learn more, read this [Air Force news release](#).

Professional Development

DOD TRAINING SOURCES

10-13 JUL 23. CLIMATE RESILIENCE WORKSHOP 2023. This [workshop](#) will provide a forum for DOD stakeholders and partners to explore the many facets of climate change, a national security threat that has tangible impacts to military readiness. Installations, environmental organizations, and climate change professionals will all be broadly represented to help inform the military departments on data, tools, and resources for addressing and combatting climate change threats. During this workshop, attendees will learn about several lines of effort supporting DOD's Climate Adaptation Plan. The workshop is hosted by REPI, the Office of Local Defense and Community Cooperation, the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Construction, and the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Environment & Energy Resilience.

REPI 2023 WEBINAR SERIES SCHEDULE. DOD's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) webinar series showcases best practices and lessons learned from REPI partnerships nationwide that support military missions, accelerate the pace of conservation, and promote military installation and community resilience. All webinars begin at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time

unless otherwise noted. For detailed webinar descriptions, connection instructions, and past webinars, click [here](#). Future webinars include:

- 15 March, [2023 REPI Report to Congress](#).
- 26 April, [10-Year Anniversary of the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership](#).
- 14 June, [Lessons Learned: Navigating Federal Resilience Programs](#).
- 9 August, [Connecting Counties & Military Installations](#).
- 11 October, [Partnerships to Advance Climate Resilience in Sentinel Landscapes](#).
- 8 November, [REPI Project Insights Across Regional Partnerships](#).
- 6 December, [Conservation Finance Opportunities in Sentinel Landscapes](#).

SERDP AND ESTCP 2023 WEBINAR SERIES. DOD's environmental research and development funding programs, the Strategic Environmental and Research and Development Program and the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program ([SERDP and ESTCP](#)), launched a [webinar series](#) to promote the transfer of innovative, cost-effective, and sustainable solutions developed using SERDP and ESTCP funding. Live webinars are offered every two weeks on Thursday from 12:00 p.m. Eastern for 90 minutes. Most webinars feature two 30-minute presentations and interactive question and answer sessions on topics targeted for DOD and DOE audiences. Prior presentations are archived for [viewing on demand](#). Future webinars include:

- 23 March, [Environmentally Sustainable Methods to Remove AFFF from Firefighting Delivery Systems](#).

1-5 MAY 23. ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL AND RANGE READINESS TRAINING SYMPOSIUM (AERRTS). The theme for AERRTS 2023 is Cooperation and Coordination: Tools for Success during Fiscal Austerity. AERRTS is a workforce training symposium aimed to improve knowledge, communication, and effective collaboration between Army land managers. Working in concert with one another maximizes efficiencies, improves communication, and aligns missions to work more effectively toward common goals. Additional information and registration can be found on the [SRPWeb Portal](#) (CAClogin required).

DOD CULTURAL RESOURCES TRAINING OVERVIEW. The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) reviewed DOD maintenance, planning, and management practices regarding historic properties on its military installations and published report GAO-19-335, *Defense Infrastructure: Additional Actions Could Enhance DOD's Efforts to Identify, Evaluate, and Preserve Historic Properties*. In response to the report's recommendation, the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Environment submitted a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to GAO. The DOD Cultural Resources Training Overview document represents the culmination of this CAP as a compilation of DOD's issued cultural resources policy, guidance, and available training as well as available external resources that may assist in military services' legal and policy compliance efforts. The overview document is available [here](#).

USACE PROSPECT TRAINING. The [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Learning Center](#) (ULC) is the center for learning and training for USACE. ULC manages and implements the Proponent-Sponsored Engineer Corps Training (PROSPECT) Program. Refer to the course schedule for the latest information relating to PROSPECT courses. For questions about registration, payment, or course specific questions, contact the Registrar office at (256) 895-7425. Environmental courses include, but are not limited to:

- The Complete RCRA Course (Course Control Number (CCN) 226).
- Environmental Regulations Practical Application Course (CCN 398).
- CERCLA/RCRA Process (CCN 356).
- Hazardous Waste Manifesting & DOT Certification (CCN 223).
- Hazardous Waste Manifesting 16-Hour DOT Recertification Course (CCN 429).
- Environmental Laws and Regulations (CCN 170).

USACE ENGINEERING WITH NATURE PODCAST SERIES. The podcast series tells the stories of a growing international community of scientists, engineers, and researchers who are applying Engineering With Nature (EWN) principles and practices to solve problems and diversify infrastructure value. The first, second and third seasons are available on the EWN [website](#).

U.S. ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMAND TRAINING CATALOG. This training program consists of both internal employee professional development and external environmental training, primarily for Army Materiel Command and U.S. Army Installation Management Command environmental professionals. See the current course catalog [here](#).

NAVY CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS OFFICERS SCHOOL TRAINING. The [Navy Civil Engineer Corps Officers School](#) (CECOS) offers training on environmental management, pollution prevention, environmental compliance, environmental conservation and planning, and environmental restoration. Energy course offerings include Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, Energy Information Administration, and Energy Technology Information. Courses offered by CECOS are available to all military and civilian employees of the U.S. government, free of charge. Travel costs are typically borne by the student's organization.

AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEERING SCHOOL TRAINING. The [Air Force Civil Engineer School](#) offers a variety of environmental management courses and seminars, including Interservice Environmental Education Review Board (ISEERB) offerings. Courses offered by the Civil Engineer School are available to all military and civilian employees of the U.S. government, free of charge. See the current course catalog [here](#).

FEDERAL TRAINING SOURCES

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS ANNUAL CONFERENCE (NAEP), 7-10 MAY 2023. The NAEP will host their Annual Conference and Training Symposium in Phoenix, Arizona. Registration information will be available [here](#).

FEMP CARBON POLLUTION-FREE ELECTRICITY RESOURCES. The Interagency Sustainability Working Group [slide deck](#) recaps the carbon pollution-free electricity (CFE) goals of EO 14057, the four strategies for sourcing CFE to comply with the EO implementing instructions, and provides links to FEMP's extensive CFE-related resources for federal agencies.

ITRC TRAINING. The [Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council](#) (ITRC) is a state-led coalition working with federal partners, industry, academia, and stakeholders to achieve regulatory acceptance of environmental technologies. In conjunction with [EPA's Technology Innovation and Field Services Division](#), ITRC delivers [training](#) courses to reach a geographically dispersed audience of regulators, consultants, and other members of the environmental community. Training sessions last approximately two hours, cover technical and regulatory information specific to environmental technologies, and innovative approaches. ITRC technical and regulatory [guidance documents](#) serve as the basis for ITRC training curricula. View the [2022 training schedule](#). On-demand sessions of more than 50 ITRC classes are also available on the [ITRC Archived Internet Seminars & Podcasts](#) page. In October ITRC released a new [per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\) biosolids fact sheet](#) that summarizes the emerging technical information about risk and management for biosolids impacted by PFAS.

SOIL BACKGROUND AND RISK ASSESSMENT WEB-GUIDANCE. ITRC [has released](#) new [web-guidance for Soil Background and Risk Assessment](#). While some state and federal agencies and other entities have guidance documents regarding soil background, no single comprehensive and widely accepted guidance document summarizes the state of the science on this topic. This ITRC guidance document is intended to fill the gap by providing a comprehensive defensible framework for establishing and using soil background in risk assessments. It focuses on the process of establishing defensible background concentrations of naturally occurring or anthropogenic ambient chemicals to be used for risk assessment at contaminated sites. ITRC is also developing training videos to provide an overview of the information presented in the guidance document; a discussion of sampling and analytical methods; information for establishing and using soil background in risk assessment; and information for using geochemical evaluations and environmental forensics in evaluating soil background.

EPA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WEBINAR SERIES: IMPROVING CWA-NPDES PERMIT COMPLIANCE. This technical assistance [webinar series](#) supports the joint EPA and authorized states [Significant Noncompliance \(SNC\) Rate Reduction National Compliance Initiative \(NCI\)](#). The SNC NCI is aimed at improving surface water quality and reducing potential impacts on drinking water by assuring that all CWA-NPDES permittees are complying with their wastewater discharge permits.

ECHO COMPLIANCE WEBINAR. EPA hosts training webinars on use of its [Enforcement and Compliance History Online](#) (ECHO) portal. ECHO webinars generally take place every other month and alternate between introductory and advanced topics. The Intro to

ECHO webinar series provides basic demonstrations of searching and navigating the ECHO website. The Advanced ECHO webinar series demonstrates more advanced search tools offered on the ECHO website. Every four months EPA highlights a different feature. Information about upcoming and recorded training sessions is available [here](#).

FRTR WEBINARS ON PFAS. The Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable ([FRTR](#)) hosts webinars to identify and discuss emerging science behind PFAS characterization and remedial technologies. Webinars are archived for viewing at any time. Upcoming and archived webinars can be found [here](#).

FEDERAL FACILITIES ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE CENTER. [FedCenter.gov](#) is the federal government's home for comprehensive environmental stewardship, compliance assistance, and professional development information. FedCenter.gov provides a wide variety of information, such as:

- Program development (e.g., environmental management systems, green procurement program).
- Federal and state regulatory requirements for various facility activities.
- Access to [environmental assistance](#).
- Access to free, [FedCenter-sponsored courses](#).
- [Partnerships](#).

FedCenter also provides member assistance services such as collaboration tools for workgroups, environmental reporting tools, and daily newsletter and subscription services.

BIOBASED PRODUCT TRAINING SERIES. The U.S. Department of Agriculture offers a series of on-demand training modules about biobased products and the [BioPreferred® Program](#). View training modules [here](#).

FEMP eTRAINING COURSES. The U.S. Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) offers interactive, [eTraining courses](#) to help federal agencies develop core competencies and comply with energy efficiency, renewable energy, water management, and sustainability requirements. FEMP is partnering with the National Institute of Building Sciences' Whole Building Design Guide to host these comprehensive, FEMP-developed eTraining courses.

EPA SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ACADEMY. Learn about key issues, successful projects, and a variety of best management practices for creating waste management programs, from the series of [live and archived webinars](#). Building on the familiar concept of [Reduce, Reuse, Recycle](#), sustainable materials management is a systemic approach that seeks to reduce materials use and their associated environmental impacts over their entire life cycle, starting with extraction of natural resources and product design and ending with decisions on recycling or final disposal. The format is a formal presentation followed by a question-and-answer session.

SMALL DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES. EPA's Office of Research and Development and Office of Water offer free monthly drinking water-focused webinars typically held the last Tuesday of the month from 2-3:00 p.m. Eastern with an optional Q&A session from 3-3:30 p.m. Eastern. This [webinar series](#) communicates the latest information on solutions for challenges facing small drinking water systems. This forum allows EPA to communicate directly with stakeholders to provide training and foster collaboration and dissemination of information.

SUSTAINABLE ACQUISITION FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES. The two-hour [course](#) provides staff involved in specifying and purchasing with a thorough introduction to compliance requirements, processes, and tools for procuring sustainable products and services. Participants will receive specific guidance on how to meet executive order and Federal Acquisition Regulation requirements and understand how sustainable acquisition benefits their agency, community, and the environment.

SUSTAINABLE ACQUISITION TRAINING RESOURCES. The interagency federal Sustainable Acquisition & Materials Management Practices Workgroup compiled a [spreadsheet](#) of sustainable acquisition training resources developed or hosted by federal agencies that are available to government employees, businesses, and non-governmental organizations.

ENERGY STAR. EPA's [EnergyStar program](#) helps identify and promote energy efficiency in products, homes, and buildings. EPA hosts a [webinar series](#) that covers a range of topics, from how to benchmark in Portfolio Manager to financing energy efficiency improvements to how to engage building occupants.

GENERAL CONFORMITY TRAINING MODULES. The General Conformity Rule ensures that the actions taken by federal agencies in nonattainment and maintenance areas do not interfere with a state's plans to meet national standards for air quality. EPA's [online conformity training program](#) covers all aspects of the rule and is divided into four modules.

CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT WEBINAR SERIES. This U.S. Geological Survey [webinar series](#) was developed to inform scientists, land managers, and the public about potential and predicted climate change impacts on fish and wildlife and to help guide resource management decisions across the United States. Regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers also host [regional webinars](#) to spotlight local research.

WATER/WASTEWATER UTILITY ALL-HAZARDS BOOTCAMP TRAINING. Hosted by EPA, this [training course](#) is designed for water and wastewater employees responsible for emergency response and recovery activities. In addition, the course explains why and how to implement an all-hazards program, and covers prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

RESTORATION WEBINAR SERIES. The [Restoration Webinar Series](#), hosted by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is a venue for disseminating new approaches, best management practices, and innovative restoration techniques to some of the nation's greatest restoration challenges. The series covers topics including planning and implementing restoration projects, project monitoring and evaluation at multiple time scales, accounting for a changing climate in restoration, regional restoration planning and priority setting, and permitting. All webinars are recorded and available for public viewing at any time.

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How the REEOs Work for You

The **U.S. Army Regional Environment and Energy Office's** close coordination with regional policymakers helps to resolve issues *before* proposals become laws and regulations.

The REEOs track and analyze proposed state environmental and energy laws, regulations, and other public sources for impacts to installation missions. When legislation or a regulation important to the military is being developed, REEOs work with the other military services to assure that their interests are represented.

To comment on items in the *Southern Review*, please email the service-appropriate Regional Environmental Coordinator (REC).

To be added to the *Southern Review* distribution list, email the [Regulatory Affairs Specialist](#).



**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**