

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL APPLIED RESOURCE SCIENCES CENTER
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER, BUILDING 50
P.O. BOX 25047
DENVER, COLORADO 80225-0047

In Reply Refer To:
9100 (RS-110) P

February 13, 1997

Information Bulletin No. RS-97-014

To: All BC, HR, RS, and NI Employees
From: Director, National Applied Resource Sciences Center
Subject: FEMA/Bureau of Reclamation Disaster Response Program

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has an agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to support the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on disaster missions.

BOR provides the Team Leader at the Disaster Field Office (DFO) and the Reclamation Manager, Disaster Response Program is the supervisor for personnel while on detail. Teams usually consist of three persons (one local, one state, and one federal).

Work usually consists of preparing Damage Survey Reports (DSR) for disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, fire, floods, and extraordinary snow removal. The damage is usually to roads, streets, bridges, and culverts with landslide and debris removal problems. FEMA usually requests Civil and Structural Engineers/Technicians and experienced Construction Inspectors as the principle job series, however, opportunities may occur for other expertise such as hydrologic, mapping sciences, GIS geological, riparian, remote sensing, technical writing and tech transfer capability. Target employees are generally in the GS-9/12 grade range but GS-13s have been accepted in the past. FEMA will train inexperienced personnel on the assignment.

BOR's policy is that Damage Survey Report (DSR) Inspectors are "non-exempt" for purposes of overtime. Personnel will be paid at 1.5 times their grade and step. Personnel actions changing the traveler's status from "exempt" to "non-exempt" are required when the employee is accepted for an assignment. BLM will pick up the base pay for 80 hours per pay period, and FEMA will pick up the overtime, per diem, and travel.

Personnel are requested to report as soon as possible once they accept an assignment. The request is for up to 120 days, and personnel are usually required to make a minimum 30-day commitment, with turnarounds usually authorized at or around 30-day increments. Typical working conditions are usually 7-day weeks and 12-hour days. Schedules can be modified as time and work demands.

If you are interested in this program, you must first get approval from your immediate Supervisor. If he/she concurs, then fill out the attached profile sheet. There is no assurance that completing the form will result in an assignment. Forward the completed forms to L.J. Porter, NARSC, RS-110. L.J. is the BLM contact to deal with BOR on this program for input into the BLM data base. Your Center Director should be advised prior to forwarding candidates' names to L.J. Porter when a call for assistance is made. BLM will respond through employee supervisors to requests for assistance.

1 Attachment (Unavailable)
Personal Data Base Sheet (3 pp)

Distribution

Director 300, MIB, Room 5627
Director 800, MIB, Room 5617
RS-150A, BLM Library
NI-100, Reading File
BC-670