



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Region 3 Environmental and Historic Preservation
One Independence Mall
615 Chestnut Street, 6th floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT DEBRIS REMOVAL FORM FEMA-4831-DR-VA

On October 1, 2024, a Presidential Disaster, referenced as FEMA-DR-4831-VA, was declared as a result of Tropical Storm Helene. FEMA is committed to assisting communities through the integration of emergency response activities in accordance with federal laws and executive orders. Please fill out the following form in order to assess any impacts within sensitive habitats, such as forested areas, rivers and streams. More information on sensitive habitats as they relate to threatened and endangered species at (<https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>). Care should be taken in these types of areas where the following best management practices (BMPs) would apply:

- Limit the removal of standing trees to the greatest extent practicable.
- Minimize instream work to the greatest extent practicable.
- Photograph areas before and after debris removal activities occur if the above two BMPs are not practicable and include with this form.

This process applies to emergency debris removal activities occurring within **120** days of the event. Activities taking place **after January 25, 2025**, should follow standard compliance processes, which include consulting FEMA Environmental and Historic Preservation prior to the start of work to obtain site specific guidance.

Locality: _____

Date of Debris Removal: _____

Vegetative Debris Removal

Did tree removal occur: Yes No

If yes, please provide the following information by site:

Location (in GPS coordinates, if available)	Approximate # of Trees Removed

Debris Removal Form FEMA-4831-DR-VA

Debris Removal in Water

Did work occur in water: Yes No

If yes, please provide the following information:

Location (in GPS coordinates, if available)	Method of Removal (hand tools, heavy machinery, etc.)

Debris Removal Form FEMA-4831-DR-VA

*Additional table space can be found on pages 4 and 5

Resources and Contacts

Please send the completed form to Lauren Szeber, Environmental and Historic Preservation Advisor, at lauren.szeber@fema.dhs.gov.

The following resources are available for additional guidance:

- The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has comprehensive guidance for handling emergency debris at the following website: [Severe Weather Debris Management | Virginia DEQ](#).
- For debris management information, including guidance on applying for an emergency permit for a temporary debris management site and the appropriate contacts for DEQ regional offices, see [Solid Waste Permits | Virginia DEQ](#). When in doubt, it is best to temporarily stage debris on paved areas outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).
- Further guidance on Threatened and Endangered Species and United States Fish and Wildlife contact information can be found at [Virginia Ecological Services Field Office | About Us | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](#).

Debris Removal from Water con't.

Location (in GPS coordinates, if available)	Method of Removal (hand tools, heavy machinery, etc.)