



**Resource Typing Definition for Response
Environmental Response/Health and Safety**

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TEAM

DESCRIPTION	The Environmental Health Team assesses, identifies, and recommends solutions for environmental threats to human health in water, food, soil, waste, and air (indoor and outdoor) during a disaster
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 protection, response, and recovery operations 2. Assesses post-disaster environmental threats to human health, such as chemical contamination and infectious diseases 3. Monitors post-disaster environmental health conditions in air, food, water, soil, and waste 4. Assesses post-disaster disease threats in vector populations such as rodents and insects
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 personnel as necessary, such as a Registered Nurse with public health experience, a medical entomologist, an industrial hygienist, or a sanitary engineer 5. Requestor orders a Type 1 Environmental Health Specialist based on specialties necessary for incident, such as environmental epidemiology, toxicology, exposure assessment/risk analysis, or radiation training and response 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 sampling supplies necessary for air, food, water, soil, and waste sampling based on assessment from 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 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
MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM	4	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM	1 – National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Environmental Health Team Leader	Not Specified
SUPPORT PERSONNEL PER TEAM	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 fulfill a specific area of expertise, such as environmental epidemiology, toxicology, exposure assessment/risk analysis, or radiation training and response.
IDENTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM	Specialized environmental health detection, monitoring, and sampling equipment	Environmental health equipment includes environmental sampling equipment such as containers, media, filters, air sampling pumps, calibrators, and mosquito and tick collection and monitoring equipment.
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) PER TEAM MEMBER	PPE is mission specific and may include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Air purifying respirators (APR) 2. Select APR cartridges 3. Eye protection equipment 4. Disposable or chemical-resistant gloves 5. Liquid splash-protective or chemical-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 and OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection.
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT PER TEAM	4 – Laptop computer 2 – Global Positioning System (GPS) 1 – Wireless data capability	Not Specified
REFERENCE MATERIALS PER TEAM	Print or electronic reference materials and databases relevant to the incident	Not Specified
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM	Appropriate team communications, such as two-way radios, cell phones, or satellite phone	Not Specified



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. Environmental Health Specialist encompasses specialties such as Medical Entomologist, Industrial Hygienist, Sanitary Engineer, Hazardous Materials Specialist, Health Physicist, Epidemiologist, Environmental Toxicologist, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Specialist.
4. This team relies on the AHJ for technical support, such as plume modeling, air and water dispersion modeling, and toxicology, as necessary.
5. Incident command may ask teams to coordinate vector control operations with state and Federal agencies.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 509: Environmental Health Team Leader, pending publication
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Environmental Health Specialist, pending publication
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Public Health Data Entry Specialist, pending publication
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Registered Nurse, pending publication
5. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment, latest edition adopted
6. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection, latest edition adopted