

**Forest Service Handbook
National Headquarters – Washington Office
Washington, DC**

**Forest Service Handbook 7509.11 – Dams Management Handbook
Chapter 40 - Safety Inspections and Hazard Inspections**

Amendment: 7509.11-1993-1

Effective date: August 5, 1993

Duration: This amendment is effective until superseded or removed.

Superseded Directive: 1, August 8, 1990; Entire Handbook issued, December 1986

Approved by: Dale Robertson, Chief

Date approved:

Responsible Staff:

Explanation of changes: Following is an explanation of the changes throughout the directive by section.

Revises and updates entire Handbook. Significant changes in direction are as follows:

05: Moves select definitions from FSM 7500. Modifies definitions to agree with Glossary of Terms for Dam Safety, prepared by the Interagency Committee for Dam Safety (ICODS), and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

08: Updates reference list and adds names and addresses of agencies, associations, and groups publishing reference materials related to dams and dam safety.

10: Changes chapter title from Project Files to Records and Files.

40: Changes chapter title from Safety Evaluation/Hazard Potential to Safety Inspections and Hazard Assessments. Replaces the term "safety evaluation" with "safety inspection" throughout.

42: Replaces the term "Hazard - Potential Evaluations "with" Hazard Assessment."

42.3: Adds hazard classification examples.

53: Adds direction on location of copies of emergency action plans.

54: Adds direction on testing emergency action plans.

62: Revises direction to exclude Regional dam or water resources engineer from serving on a dam failure investigation team in cases of potential or apparent conflict of interest.

70: Changes title from Dam Inventory to Management of Special Use and Other Non-Forest Service Projects. Previous direction contained in this chapter is moved to FSM 7514; moves direction from previous chapter 80 to chapter 70.

80: Changes title from Management of Special-Use and Other Non-Forest Service Projects to Planning and Design.

Completes previously reserved FSM 7520 and incorporates it into FSH 7509.11.

81: Provides guidance and definitions for four phases in the design schedule.

82: Provides guidance for planning and designing channel layout.

83: Provides guidance for assigning hazard classification.

This Handbook is now available electronically in the National Information Center in the same format as the paper copy. Henceforth, amendments to this Handbook will be issued to Forest Service units electronically on a document basis.

Contents

40.2 Objectives

41 Safety Evaluations

41.1 Scope

41.2 Safety Inspection Phase

41.21 Collection and Review of Existing Data

41.22 Site Examination

41.23 Supplemental Data Acquisition

41.24 Data Analyses and Supporting Calculations

41.25 Formal Report Preparation

42 Hazard Assessments

42.1 Assessment

42.2 Exceptions to Recommended Spillway Design Flood Criteria

42.3 Hazard Classification Examples

42.31 High Hazard

42.32 Moderate Hazard

42.33 Low Hazard