

IDIS Online 11.7 Release Notes

HEROS Module

The next system release for IDIS Online (Release 11.7) will occur the evening of February 28, 2014. The HEROS module will go live in the system on March 3, 2014 as part of the release.

HUD Environmental Review Online System (HEROS)

HEROS will improve how HUD and Responsible Entity staff manage environmental reviews. The system assists in determining the level of review required, provides guidance on compliance with 17 federal related laws and authorities, and facilitates the certification and release of funds process. HEROS also guides users through appropriate documentation for the review, and creates a publicly accessible electronic Environmental Review Record.

Guidance and Compliance

HEROS guides users through compliance with the environmental laws and authorities listed in 24 CFR §58.6 and for 24 CFR §58.5 using a walkthrough approach. For each law and authority, HEROS presents the user with a series of multiple choice and written questions, along with applicable guidance materials and references, to lead the user towards a determination of whether the project is in compliance with that factor.

Environmental Review Records and Online Posting

HEROS takes all the user's responses, analysis, and documentation, and packages them into a single Microsoft Word document containing the Environmental Review Record.

Reviews that are open for public comments prior to the final approval are made available on the OneCPD website during the applicable public comment period. Environmental Review preparers are still required to publish or post their public notices as they do now, but these notices may now refer the public to the online posting for easier reference and increased transparency.

Rollout of the System

HEROS will be rolling out regionally with user access and training for entitlement responsible entities. The rollout will begin in April starting with Region 7, and continue in the following regional order: 8, 10, 1, 3, 6, 2, 5, 4, 9. It is expected that the entitlement responsible entity rollout will take up to a year. Rollout plans for nonentitlement responsible entities, states, tribes and other HUD programs are being developed at this time. Use of HEROS for completing the environmental review process will be voluntary while HUD completes the rule making process.