

Federal Family and Partners Continue to Support State Response to Tropical Storm Harvey: Residents Urged to Heed Warnings from State, Local, and Tribal Officials

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WASHINGTON – The federal government is actively providing support to states, local communities, and tribes as Hurricane Harvey, now downgraded to a Tropical Storm, continues to impact the coastline and inland areas of Texas. FEMA’s National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) in Washington, D.C., and Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) in Denton, Texas, continue 24-hour coordination of federal support.

FEMA’s number one priority is supporting safety and life-sustaining actions.

Six federal Urban Search & Rescue task forces with the **National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) System**, encompassing more than 400 personnel, are staged in San Antonio, Texas, prepared to support affected states and tribes as needed and requested. Each of these teams has swift water rescue capabilities. A US&R Incident Support Team is staged in College Station, Texas, to support the teams during their deployment.

Commodities are strategically located at Incident Support Bases (ISB) in the Gulf Coast area. As of this afternoon, more than 390,000 liters of water, 524,000 meals, 4,500 tarps, and 53 generators were received at the ISBs and staging areas in Texas and Louisiana. FEMA is providing around-the-clock staffing at its distribution center in Fort Worth, Texas, and is shipping additional commodities as necessary and requested.

The overall federal response includes:

- The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** activated the **National Emergency Medical Services** contract for 100 ambulances, for advanced and basic life support, to be staged in San Antonio, Texas.
- **Mobile Emergency Response Support** personnel and equipment are on the ground in Texas and Louisiana to support the states with secure and non-secure voice, video and information services, to support emergency response communications needs. Additional teams are in route to the affected areas.
- FEMA **Incident Management Assistance Teams** are in place at the Texas and Louisiana state emergency operations centers in Austin, Texas, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to support response efforts. Additional teams continue to deploy.
- FEMA’s **National Business Emergency Operations Center** is active and facilitating coordination between government and private sector organizations, as the community responds to Tropical Storm Harvey.
- The **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** has General Adjusters situated in Texas and Louisiana, to support initial damage assessments and assist with positioning adjuster resources. **Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA)** leadership is in contact with senior insurance officials in Texas and Louisiana to provide the NFIP’s support to states.

Ongoing Support and Preparedness Efforts:

The American Red Cross (ARC) has mobilized a massive relief effort to provide shelter,



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