

Federal Assistance for Alabama's Zeta Recovery Tops \$31 Million

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – **More than \$31 million** was approved in federal grants, disaster loans and flood insurance claims since Hurricane Zeta took aim at Alabama Oct. 28-29, resulting in flooding, widespread power outages and scattered debris as it tracked southwest to northeast.

Families and households that suffered losses or damage in **Clarke, Dallas, Marengo, Mobile, Perry, Washington and Wilcox** counties had until Feb. 8 to apply for disaster assistance.

As of Feb. 10, FEMA's Individuals and Households Program approved **more than \$22 million** to repair disaster-damaged homes and pay for temporary housing. That includes **\$8 million** approved under Other Needs Assistance, a FEMA program that provides funding for serious disaster-related needs including medical and dental, transportation, and moving and storage expenses.

The National Flood Insurance Program paid **more than \$3.5 million** in Hurricane Zeta flood claims to **241** policyholders. And the U.S. Small Business Administration approved **\$5.7 million** in long-term, low-interest disaster loans for **250** homeowners, renters and small businesses to cover damage and loss of essential personal property.

"Every disaster is devastating, and Alabama saw two hurricane disasters over a six-week span while people are trying to adjust to a new normal during a national health crisis," said Federal Coordinating Officer Allan Jarvis, who is leading FEMA's recovery efforts. "FEMA is committed to the people of Alabama and helping the recovery efforts on all fronts."

Zeta made landfall Oct. 28 as a strong Category 2 hurricane, with sustained winds at 110 mph, only weeks after Hurricane Sally came ashore. Sally's destruction was aimed at Baldwin, Escambia and Mobile counties along the Gulf Coast.



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The major disaster declaration for Zeta was approved Dec. 10.

Here is a snapshot of Hurricane Zeta recovery efforts as of **Feb. 10**:

- **21,393** registration calls for disaster assistance made to FEMA;
- **7,466** households approved for **more than \$22 million** in FEMA grants for homeowners and renters, including:
 - **4,828** households approved for **more than \$13.9 million** in housing grants, including short-term rental assistance and home repair costs;
 - **5,235** households approved for **more than \$8 million** for essential disaster-related needs such as medical and dental expenses and lost personal possessions;
- **3,874** homeowners and renters receiving FEMA rental assistance;
- **13,496** virtual home inspections completed;
- **642,650 cubic yards** of debris collected.

For those who have applied to FEMA for Zeta assistance, continue to keep in touch with FEMA specialists to keep your application moving forward and if your contact information changes. Here's how:

- [Download FEMA's mobile app](#). For information go to: www.fema.gov/mobile-app.
- Visit www.DisasterAssistance.gov.
- Call the **FEMA Helpline** at **800-621-3362 (TTY 800-462-7585)**. Multilingual operators are available. **Lines are open daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.** Those who use a relay service such as a videophone, InnoCaption or CapTel should provide FEMA with their specific phone number assigned to that service.

For a list of health and human service agencies available in your community, dial **211**, text **888-421-1266**, or chat via www.211connectsalabama.org.

For more information on Alabama's disaster recovery, visit ema.alabama.gov, [AlabamaEMA Facebook page](#), www.fema.gov/disaster/4573 and www.facebook.com/fema



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