On August 28, 2006, in advance of Tropical Storm Ernesto’s landfall in Florida later that week, FEMA activated a TX-TF1 Type-I US&R Task Force, a FEMA US&R IST staffed with 2 TX-TF1 personnel and other FEMA Personnel throughout the FEMA system, and the FEMA US&R IST Cache that was staged in College Station and Denton, Texas.

Later that day, the FEMA US&R IST Cache and Support personnel left College Station with 1 trailer and headed towards Denton, Texas, where they linked up with an additional IST trailer at the FEMA logistics center. The 4 support personnel then travelled to Naval Air Station Jacksonville in Florida where they met up with the FEMA IST.

As part of preparations for the storm, FEMA activated a total of 12 Type-I and Type-III US&R Task Forces and strategically staged them in areas where they could quickly respond to the hardest-hit areas along the Gulf Coast after landfall. As such, the TX-TF1 Type-I US&R Task Force was pre-staged in Atlanta, Georgia, where they remained throughout the incident.

As Hurricane Ernesto approached landfall, it began to lose strength. On August 31, Hurricane Ernesto made landfall on the North Carolina coast just below hurricane status. The initial damage reports were not as severe as originally predicted, and local authorities did not request assistance from any of the 12 FEMA US&R Task Forces stationed along the Gulf Coast.

As a result, on September 3, the TX-TF1 Type-I US&R Task Force, along with the FEMA IST and the FEMA US&R IST Cache, received its demobilization orders from FEMA, with all personnel returning home later that day.