

2011

JOPLIN MISSOURI TORNADO

Deployment Statistics

Lasted a total of 6 days

8 Personnel activated supporting the following resources:

- 1 Search Team
- ESF-9 Coordination Center

Type - **TORNADO**



At approximately 3:00 p.m. on May 25, 2011, TX-TF1 was activated by TDEM due to an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) from the State of Missouri.

The city of Joplin had been struck by a tornado on May 22 that was rated EF-5 on the enhanced Fujita intensity scale with sustained winds up to 250 miles per hour. The tornado was 3/4 mile wide and tore a path 13.8 miles long causing destruction throughout the city, killing 142 people and injuring 990 more. Approximately 2,000 structures were destroyed, including the town's hospital and high school.

As a result, TX-TF1 deployed a Search Team comprised of 1 Task Force Leader, 1 Search Team Manager, and 3 Human Remains (HR) Canine Search Teams (canine, canine handler, and flanker/navigator). The Search Team arrived in Joplin at 8:00 a.m. on May 26 and immediately set up a base of operations and began conducting canine searches of assigned areas. TX-TF1 conducted over 13 canine search missions during the next 4 days and completed the last search assignment on the evening of Sunday, May 29.

On the morning of May 30, after the Search Team completed all missions, the State of Missouri released all TX-TF1 personnel and they returned back to College Station, TX, later that day.



May 25-30