

On October 4, 2016, the states of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina began experiencing the effects of Hurricane Matthew which was classified as a Category 4 Hurricane. Forecasts for Matthew included record breaking rains and damaging winds putting millions of residents at risk. The projected affected states and FEMA began to evacuate populations and mobilize resources to respond to this large and powerful hurricane.

On October 6, FEMA activated 6 Type-I US&R Task Forces, 4 Type-III US&R Task Forces, the FEMA US&R Blue IST with support personnel from TX-TF1, a FEMA US&R IST Cache, and 2 HEPP Caches.

FEMA US&R resources were originally sent to Florida and Georgia, until the path of Matthew moved north towards the Carolinas. As flooding began to occur inland, FEMA US&R Task Forces responded to requests for assistance, making a number of water rescues, as well as assisting in the evacuation of hundreds of people and their companion animals. In all, Hurricane Matthew's damage resulted in excess of \$10 billion, over 100,000 homes flooded, and the death of 47 people in 5 U.S. States.

As the hurricane dissipated, and the flood waters made it to the ocean, all TX-TF1 members on the Blue IST were demobilized by October 17. This was the largest FEMA US&R response since Hurricane Sandy in 2012.







