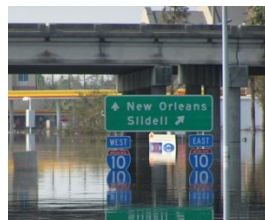
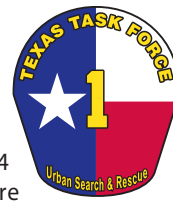


TX-TF1 PRE-STAGED IN LOUISIANA FOR HURRICANE KATRINA



On August 26th, 2005, while Hurricane Katrina was still a category 2 storm, Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) was pre-staged by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in Shreveport, LA. On August 28th, TX-TF1 relocated to the LSU Fire Field in Baton Rouge. At 6:10 am on August 29th, Hurricane Katrina made its second landfall as a Category 4 storm near New Orleans, LA. By 9am that same day, there were reports of ten feet of water in the Lower Ninth Ward and by 2 pm New Orleans officials had confirmed a breach of the 17th Street Canal levee. On August 30th, the Task Force moved into the operations area and set up a Base of Operations (BoO) in the parking lot of a commercial business approximately 9 miles from New Orleans.



At the direction of the FEMA Blue IST, the first day of operations for TX-TF1 was to classify the volunteer boats requested to stage at the FEMA US&R Base of Operations by the Mayor of New Orleans and the Governor of Louisiana. By midday on August 30th, four rescue squads were operational with volunteer boat operators at the IH-610 and IH-10 launch site. August 31st operations consisted of conducting search & rescue operations of residents in Orleans Parish stranded by rising water after the levee breach. August 31st through September 6th operations were conducting hasty and primary searches over a twenty four square mile area. Approximately 85% of New Orleans was underwater during the rescue phase of operations.

By September 6th the response in New Orleans had shifted to a recovery phase, therefore search and rescue responders were no longer required. After completing over 3000 rescues in the New Orleans area and Orleans Parish, TX-TF1 departed the morning of September 7th, 2005 and returned to College Station.

Deployment Statistics

• Incident involved 80 personnel deployed for 13 days

Type I US&R Task Force

- 4 Rescue squads
- 4 Canine search teams
- 2 Technical search teams
- 2 Structural engineers
- Command personnel
- Communications personnel and equipment
- Medical personnel and equipment
- Hazardous materials specialists and equipment
- Logistics personnel and equipment

2 ESF-9 Coordinators assigned to the State Operations Center



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