

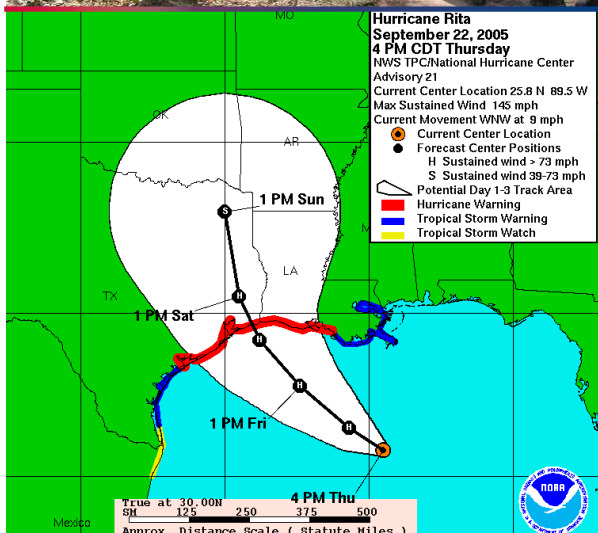
## TX-TF1 DEPLOYS A TYPE I & TYPE III US&R TASK FORCE AND A WATER TASK FORCE



On September 19th, 2005, TX-TF1 was called back from their second Hurricane Katrina deployment to New Orleans, LA. On September 20th, the day after returning from an 8 day deployment to New Orleans, Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) was activated by the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) as a state resource in preparation for Hurricane Rita. Hurricane Rita was predicted to make landfall along the Texas coast on September 24th as a Category 5 storm. A State of Texas ESF-9 Unified Command was established and operated out of Reliant Park in Houston and was divided into a Water, a Structural, and an Air Branch. The water branch consisted of a Central, West, and East Division, and the Structural Branch consisted of a Type I and Type III task force.

Hurricane Rita made landfall as a Category 3 storm between Sabine Pass, TX and Johnsons Bayou, LA. TX-TF1 conducted search operations and welfare checks in East Texas.

Hurricane Rita was the fourth-most intense Atlantic hurricane ever recorded and the most intense tropical storm ever observed in the Gulf of Mexico. Rita caused \$11.3 billion in damages on the U.S. Gulf Coast. On September 28th, after all search and rescue operations were concluded, the GDEM released TX-TF1 and the additional ten FEMA US&R task forces staged in Dallas.



### Deployment Statistics

#### • Incident involved 162 personnel deployed for 8 days

- Type I US&R Task Force (consisting of 80 personnel)
  - 4 Rescue squads
  - 4 Canine and 2 technical search teams
  - Command, Medical, Logistics, HazMat and Communications personnel

- Type III US&R Task Force (consisting of 23 personnel)
  - 2 Rescue squads
  - 4 Canine and 2 technical search teams
  - Command, Medical, Logistics, HazMat and Communications personnel

- Hurricane Water Task Force (consisting of 59 personnel)
  - Central Division - 4 Command staff and support personnel
    - 2 Water rescue squads from Austin
  - West Division - 4 Command staff and support personnel
    - 3 Water rescue squads from San Antonio and Denton
  - East Division - 4 Command staff and support personnel
    - 3 Water rescue squads from Ft. Worth and Grapevine

#### State of Texas ESF-9 Unified Command Team

- Command staff and support personnel comprising a Water, Structural and Air Branch

16 Helicopters assigned from TMF, US Coast Guard, TX Parks and Wildlife, and U.S. Border Patrol

- 8 TX-TF1 helicopter rescue swimmers were co-located with these helicopters

2 ESF-9 Coordinators assigned to the State Operations Center

- 20 additional TEEX support personnel assigned to the State Operations Center

1 ESF-9 Liaison assigned to the Houston DDC, later re-deployed to the Beaumont DDC

ESF-9 Coordination Center in College Station was activated for this deployment



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