

# 2005

## HURRICANE KATRINA I

### Deployment Statistics

Lasted a total of 13 days

122 Personnel activated supporting the following resources:

- Type-I US&R Task Force
- Water Task Force
  - 5 Water Rescue Squads
- 2 ESF-9 Coordinators
- 6 Helicopter Search and Rescue Technicians
- FEMA US&R IST
- IST Personnel

Teams completed:

- 14,000 Rescues

Type - **HURRICANE**



On August 23, 2005, hours after an interaction between a tropical wave and the remains of Tropical Depression Ten in the Atlantic Ocean, Tropical Storm Katrina was formed. The tropical storm moved towards Florida gaining strength, and on August 25, officially became a hurricane 2 hours prior to making landfall between Hallandale Beach and Aventura in Florida. Hurricane Katrina immediately weakened, but quickly regained hurricane status after entering the Gulf of Mexico.

On August 26, in preparation for the landfall of Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, FEMA activated 1 Type-I US&R Task Force, 2 Type-III US&R Task Forces, the FEMA IST, and the FEMA US&R IST Cache. TX-TF1 supported this activation by mobilizing a Type-I US&R Task Force and providing 1 member for the FEMA US&R Blue IST. After TX-TF1 was mobilized, they staged in Shreveport and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the Blue IST.

Due to the strengthening of Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf of Mexico, additional resources were needed. As a result, on August 28, the state of Louisiana submitted an Emergency Mutual Assistance Compact (EMAC) request, which is a nationally adopted mutual aid agreement among states to share resources during times of need, for a Water Task Force, composed of 5 Water Rescue Squads. The Water Task Force was immediately activated and staged in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

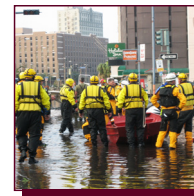
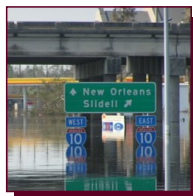
On August 29, at 6:10 a.m., Hurricane Katrina made its second landfall as a strong Category 3 Hurricane near New Orleans, Louisiana. By 9:00 a.m. that same day, there were reports of ten feet of water in the Lower Ninth Ward and by 2:00 p.m. New Orleans officials had confirmed a breach of the 17th Street Canal levee. Following landfall, approximately 85% of the city was underwater.

The Type-I US&R Task Force and the Water Task Force worked to assist throughout the city by conducting rescues and evacuations. The Type-I US&R Task Force primarily focused their efforts in the Orleans Parish, by working with other agencies to get people out of flooded and dangerous areas, while the Water Task Force utilized their swiftwater rescue boats and 2 jet skis to get people out of the areas on the outskirts of the city while primarily working with Louisiana's Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Both teams continued their mission working tirelessly until September 6, until the response in New Orleans had shifted from the rescue to recovery phase, no longer requiring search and rescue personnel. Both teams and the member deployed with the IST departed New Orleans on the morning of September 7, and demobilized later that day.



**FEMA**



August 26- September 7