

2007

HURRICANE DEAN

Deployment Statistics

Lasted a total of 6 days

222 Personnel activated supporting the following resources:

- Type-I US&R Task Force
- Type-III US&R Task Force
- Water Task Force
 - 9 Water Rescue Squads
- 8 Helicopter Search and Rescue Technicians
- ESF-9 Coordination Center
- SAR Overhead Team
- FEMA US&R IST Cache

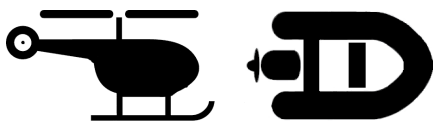
Type - **HURRICANE**



In the 3 months leading up to Hurricane Dean, the State of Texas was stricken with constant heavy rains which caused significant flooding. In those 2 months alone, TX-TF1 had deployed 6 times to support local jurisdictions during various severe weather events, with the most recent being Tropical Storm Erin with TX-TF1 teams demobilizing on August 17.

On August 18, 2007, Hurricane Dean was located in the Caribbean as a Category 5 Hurricane and the NWS predicted that Dean could make landfall between Brownsville and Corpus Christi in a few days' time. As a result, on August 19, GDEM directed TX-TF1 to activate all available resources, which included a Type-I and Type-III US&R Task Force and a Water Task Force composed of 9 Water Rescue Squads from TX-TF1, and a Type-III US&R Task Force from Texas Task Force 2 (TX-TF2). Additional support was requested from FEMA, which resulted in the activation of the FEMA US&R IST, FEMA US&R IST Cache, 2 Type-I US&R Task Forces, and 4 Type-III US&R Task Forces. Resources were staged throughout the state ready to respond when necessary.

Hurricane Dean made landfall on August 21, between Mexico and Belize as a Category 5 Hurricane. Though Texas avoided the major blunt of the storm, it still caused severe flooding in South Texas. All resources were demobilized a few days later on August 24, with the deployment being deemed a success and all resources safely returning home. This deployment was the largest activation of search and rescue assets in the state's history.



August 19-24