

SIX WATER RESCUE SQUADS DEPLOYED TO HOUSTON



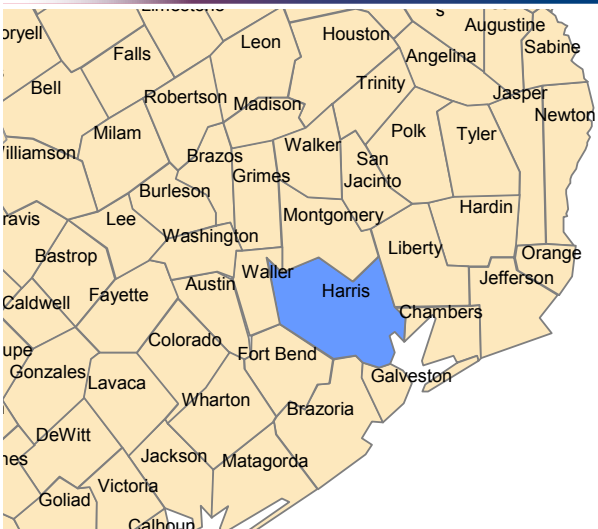
On June 19th, Gov. Rick Perry directed the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) to activate Texas Task Force One (TX-TF1) in response to the severe flooding conditions in the Houston area. Six swiftwater rescue teams consisting of approximately fifty personnel were mobilized at the team's headquarters in College Station, where they were pre-staged for immediate response at the request of local officials in Houston. Three additional swiftwater rescue teams were on standby elsewhere in the state.



TX-TF1 also activated an air-ground coordination team in response to the wide-area flooding and provided additional support personnel to state and local officials. The six swiftwater rescue teams remained on standby at Texas Task Force 1's headquarters in College Station for the entire activation. The task force used the two-day deployment for additional training in rescue techniques, global positioning systems, satellite communications, and boat operations.

In addition to the swiftwater rescue teams in College Station, TX-TF1 deployed a search and rescue command component to the Houston Disaster District headquarters and the Harris County Emergency Operations Center.

On June 21st, GDEM demobilized the TX-TF1's swiftwater rescue teams due to reduced severe weather conditions in Houston and local officials' capability to manage the flood response.



Deployment Statistics

- Incident involved 50 personnel deployed for 2 days

Swift Water Rescue Strike Team

- 6 water rescue squads

Swift water rescue logistics personnel with trailer and communications package were prepared and placed on standby in College Station.

- 1 ESF-9 Coordinator assigned at the State Operations Center
- 1 ESF-9 Liaison assigned at the Houston Disaster District Headquarters
- 1 ESF-9 Liaison assigned at the Harris County EOC



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