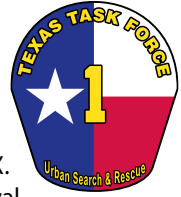


TWELVE FEMA US&R TYPE I & III TEAMS ON STANDBY FOR HURRICANE ERNESTO



On August 28th, TX-TF1 deployed under the direction of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) along with eleven other FEMA US&R teams. In order to support such a large National US&R deployment, FEMA activated a FEMA Incident Support Team (IST) and requested that TX-TF1 forward deploy the IST cache stationed in College Station, TX. Two TX-TF1 personnel drove the IST cache of equipment to Naval Air Station Jacksonville in Florida in coordination with the FEMA IST Logistics Section.



TX-TF1 maintains a portion of the FEMA US&R IST equipment cache trailers for deployment throughout the United States upon activation by FEMA. The mobilization and use of FEMA IST cache provides a significant capability for disaster response and mitigation. The multi-disciplinary FEMA US&R task forces afford search, rescue, medical, and technical capabilities, and a wide variety of services for catastrophic events.

The IST cache maintained by TX-TF1 was mobilized and travelled to Denton, TX where it linked up with an additional IST trailer at the FEMA logistics center. The two trailers then departed for NAS Jacksonville.

The IST equipment cache is organized into functional kits and is available for dispatch with the IST. FEMA maintains these kits to support the IST with communications equipment (including telephones and radios), computers, printers, and administrative office supplies.

The initial damage reports were not as severe as originally predicted, and local authorities did not request assistance from any of the twelve FEMA task forces stationed along the Gulf Coast. As a result, on September 3rd, TX-TF1 received its demobilization orders from FEMA.

Deployment Statistics

- Incident involved 4 personnel deployed for 7 days

FEMA IST Equipment Cache

- 2 eighteen wheel cargo trucks

- 4 IST cache support personnel and truck drivers

