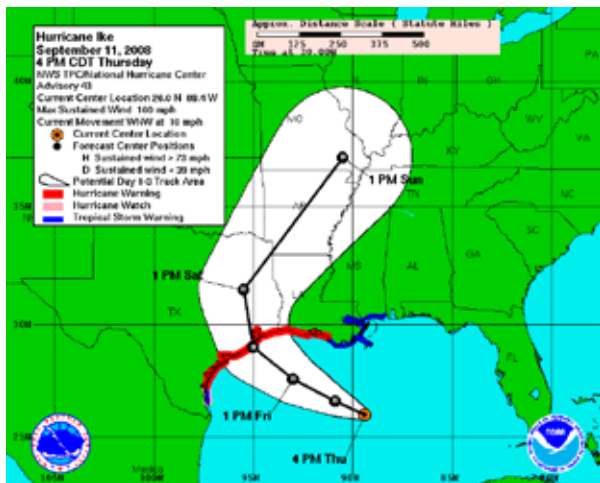


## TX-TF1 COORDINATES THE HURRICANE IKE RESCUE OPERATIONS



On September 8, 2008, Hurricane Ike was located in the Gulf of Mexico with the potential to develop into a major hurricane. On September 8, the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) directed Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) to activate all available search and rescue resources and forward deploy as required.

Based on a request from TX-TF1, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) resources were already pre-staged in Houston for Hurricane Gustav the previous week. These FEMA assets included a FEMA Incident Support Team (IST) and three Type I and six Type III FEMA US&R Task Forces. Prior to landfall, while staged at Reliant Center in Houston, TX-TF1 worked closely with other state and federal response agencies to create a state and federal unified search and rescue command organization.

After making landfall on September 13 at 2:10am near Galveston Island, Hurricane Ike had sustained winds of 110 mph and a 20 foot storm surge. Within hours of the storm making landfall, TX-TF1, along with other state and federal teams, moved into the impacted areas and immediately began search and rescue operations. Search and rescue personnel conducted operations in Galveston, Chambers, Jefferson, and Orange counties, an area of approximately 5000 square miles. Under the direction of the TX-TF1 Unified Command, state of Texas US&R task forces along with other supporting state and federal agencies were able to complete these operations within five days.

After all search and rescue operations were completed and the threat of major flooding associated with Hurricane Ike had subsided, GDEM released all deployed task forces from operations on September 18.



### Deployment Statistics

#### • Incident involved 195 personnel deployed for 11 days

- Type I US&R Task Force (consisting of 71 personnel)
  - 4 Rescue squads
  - 4 Canine and 2 technical search teams
  - Command, Medical, Logistics, HazMat and Communications personnel

#### Quick Reaction US&R Task Force (consisting of 27 personnel)

- 2 Rescue squads
- 4 Canine and 2 technical search teams
- Command, Medical, Logistics, HazMat and Communications personnel

#### Hurricane Water Task Force (consisting of 51 personnel)

- 3 Water rescue squads staged in San Antonio
- 6 Water rescue squads staged in Houston

#### State of Texas ESF-9 Unified Command Team (consisting of 25 personnel)

- Command staff and support personnel comprising a Water, Structural and Air Branch
- Member of the TX-TF1, TX-TF2, Texas Forest Service, Texas Military Forces, Dept. of State Health Services,
- General Land Office, Dept. of Parks and Wildlife, and the Dept. of Public Safety.

#### Search and Rescue Join Air/Ground Coordination and Control Element

- 1 ESF-9 Liaison assigned to the JAGCT
- 5 C-130 Hercules aircraft
- 15 UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters staged in Austin, Edinburg, and Houston
- 6 TX-TF1 helicopter rescue specialists were staged with the UH-60's

#### - 3 ESF-9 Coordinators assigned to the State Operations Center

#### - 1 ESF-9 Liaison assigned to the Houston DDC

#### - 1 ESF-9 Liaison assigned to the Galveston EOC

#### - 1 ESF-9 Liaison assigned to the Texas Forest Service TF Ike

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

