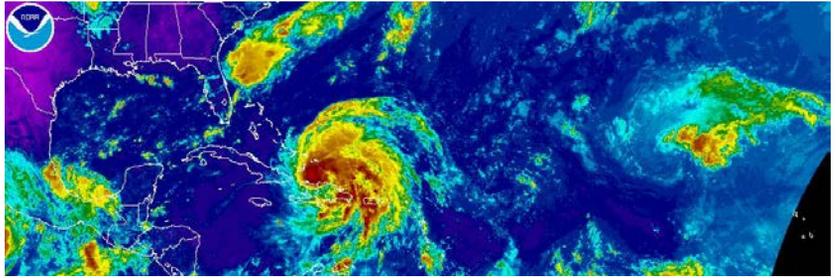
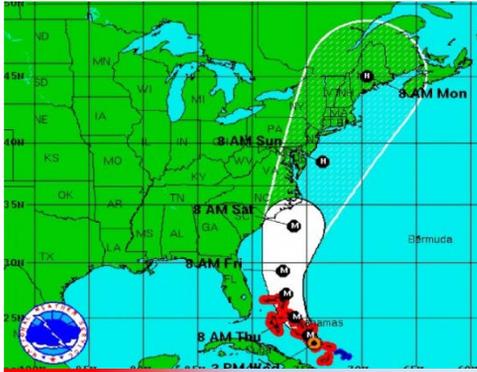


TASK FORCE SUPPORTS FEMA IST DEPLOYMENT FOR HURRICANE IRENE



On August 25th, 2011, in preparations for Hurricane Irene, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) activated an Incident Support Team (IST) and requested that Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) assist with staffing. A member of TX-TF1 was requested by FEMA to forward deploy with the IST which was staged at the FEMA warehouse in Virginia. The IST established a base camp in Herndon, VA and began planning operations for the six FEMA US&R task forces enroute to the area.



TX-TF1 provides personnel to staff the FEMA US&R IST for deployments throughout the United States upon activation by FEMA. Supporting the mobilization and deployment of the FEMA IST provides task force personnel an opportunity to train and practice command and planning functions at large scale incidents and improves the State's 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.

In addition to supporting personnel to staff the IST, TX-TF1 also 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 in College Station by TX-TF1 was checked and readied for deployment in the event that FEMA requested it to be mobilized and deployed.

The IST personnel worked for the next seven days supporting the FEMA US&R teams operating in the affected areas along the New England coast. On September 1st, IST personnel received demobilization orders from FEMA and the TX-TF1 member returned that evening to Texas.

Deployment Statistics

- **Deployment involved 1 person deployed for 8 days**
FEMA Incident Support Team
 - 1 Task force member deployed as the Deputy Medical Unit Leader
 - ESF-9 Coordination Center in College Station was activated for this deployment

