Emergency Programs Division
Growing Awareness for USDA Leadership

Agricultural Outlook Forum
February 21, 2019

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Agenda

- USDA Operations Center Mission
- Disaster Mapping
- Daily/Ongoing Mapping
- Next Steps and Opportunities
Mission

• USDA focal point for incidents affecting Agriculture
• 24 hour global situational awareness
• Ops Center connectivity (White House, DHS, Exec Branch)
• Alert notifications to Senior Leadership
• Incident notifications: Personnel, Facilities, Mission

Activities

• Processed Security & Emergency Alerts
  • 16,124 NOC Alerts
  • 2,435 alerts with Security Detail
  • 2,312 FEMA NCR Ops Alerts
  • 113 White House Communications
  • 55 COGCON Notifications
  • 4 SEAR 1 and NSSE events

• Developed 260+ Daily Situation Summaries, 95% on time rate
• Developed 308 notifications
  • 61 Ops Alerts
  • 247 Ongoing Incidents
• Conducted 119 actual & test alert messages (manage 900 contacts)

*CY 2016
Media Images of Disasters
Ag Scenes of floods
Summary: As of 0500 EDT Tuesday, August 29, 2017: Located about 100 miles east-southeast of Port O'Connor Texas and 135 miles south-southwest of Port Arthur Texas, producing 45 mph winds, while moving East at 3 mph. This general motion is expected to continue through this morning before a turn toward the northeast and continued slow forward speed are expected later today into tonight followed by a turn toward the north-northeast on Wednesday. On the forecast track the center of Harvey is expected to be just off shore of the middle and upper coasts of Texas through tonight, then move inland over the northwestern Gulf coast on Wednesday. Rainfall amounts of 5 to 10 inches are expected in southeast Louisiana and coastal Mississippi and Alabama.

Hazards Affecting Land:

Rainfall: Harvey is expected to produce additional rainfall accumulations of 7 to 13 inches through Friday over parts of the upper Texas coast into southwestern Louisiana. Isolated storm totals may reach 50 inches over the upper Texas coast, including the Houston/Galveston metropolitan area. These rains are currently producing catastrophic and life-threatening flooding over large portions of southeastern Texas and southwestern Louisiana.

DHS NOC Reporting as of 0500 EDT Tuesday August 29, 2017: The FEMA National Response Coordination Center and FEMA Region VI Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) remain activated at Level I (24/7). FEMA has established four Incident Support Bases (ISB) two in TX and two in LA, and is establishing an additional ISB in TX. The Secretary activated the Surge Capacity Force of 900 volunteers; 248 have deployed. USCG has closed the ports of Houston, Galveston, and TX City for the next 48 hours. The TX State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) remains at full activation. The LA SEOC is at partial activation. Approximately 12,000 members of the TX Army National Guard and 440 members of the LA National Guard have been activated.

Responding Agencies:

- **ESF-11**: ESF #11 in FEMA Region VI was activated Friday 25 Aug; All ESF #11 resources assigned to staff the FEMA facilities in Austin, Denton and Baton Rouge were dispatched and are operational. However, FEMA announced the closing of the IOF in Baton Rouge yesterday. There are no pending requests or unmet needs for ESF #11 assistance at this time.

- **ESF-4**: ESF #4 is staffed at both the FEMA National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) in Washington, DC, and the Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) in Denton, Texas. ESF #4 is maintaining contact with State ESF #4 partner, Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS), as they identify potential needs for firefighting resource support. There have been no requests for firefighting resources through ESF #4. A request for additional ESF #4 personnel for additional RRCC staffing and IMT liaison is pending.

**Reporting Agencies:**

- The following agencies/offices have reported impacts to personnel, facilities and/or mission capability due to Hurricane Harvey: AMS, APHIS, ARS, ERS, FNS, FS, FSA, FSIS, GIPSA, NRCS, OCFO, RD, OCIO, OHRM, OPPM, NIFA, RMA.

**Next Steps:** The USDA Operations Center will lead a conference call at 1400 Tue August 29, 2017.
USDA EPD GIS Working Group

– MAC Support Team and USDA Geospatial Coordination Meeting on September 5, 2017

– Established USDA, Emergency Programs Division GIS Working Group

– 4 GIS people volunteered to join. 1 person from RD and 3 from FNS.

– Entire team located in Operation Center area
Maps by EPD GIS Working Group
Over 100 maps during Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, and Nate

- Updated maps of hurricane current location and forecast track with USDA facilities at least 3 times/daily
- USDA offices open and closed status during the hurricanes
- USDA employee deployment numbers & locations
- Agricultural crops - potential impact estimate
- Agricultural livestock potential impact estimate
- Precipitation and flooding on impacted area
- Damage assessment status on impacted area
- State and county declared disaster areas (from FEMA)
Hurricane Mapping Products 2017 – From EPD
Maps by Other USDA Agencies

EPD GIS Working Group coordinated with other USDA agencies

- APHIS: Livestock potential impact estimate
- OCE: Hurricane track and crops potential impact estimate
- NASS: Raster Imagery analysis result (pre & post hurricanes)
- NASS: Crops and livestock statistical potential impact estimate maps
Other Mapping Products

Earthquake in Saipan
Other Mapping Products

Police activity
New York City

EXAMPLE, NOT A TRUE EVENT
Other Mapping Products

Active Shooter & USDA link, New York City

EXAMPLE, NOT A TRUE EVENT
• **Next Steps**
  – Ongoing GIS data improvement
    • Multiple USDA locations
    • 100,000 employees, staff, contractors globally
  – Recognize the speed of information & expectations

• **Encouraging Opportunities**
  – Shared awareness of personnel & facility data needs
  – Whole-of-USDA approach
    • Disasters – during incidents
    • Daily – on daily basis, geospatial data connections