Hurricane Harvey 2017
9/11/2017 – 0700 CDT Update

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- EPA has assigned a Regional Recovery Support Function (RSF) Coordinator to participate in the Regional Interagency Recovery Meeting at the Joint Field Office (JFO) on Monday, September 11, 2017. The RSF Coordinator will be at the JFO this week to provide input to the recovery effort.

- EPA Office of Emergency Management Director Reggie Cheatham, Carl Edlund, Dan Opalski and OMB Budget Manager Jodi Beringer will tour EPA's command post, the Houston laboratory, the TAGA mobile laboratory and the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund site today.

- EPA Environmental Justice Director Arturo Blanco will travel to Houston/Galveston today, Port Arthur on Tuesday and Alabama-Coushatta tribe on Wednesday. EPA will update community environmental justice advocates via conference call on Tuesday. TCEQ/EPA will meet with environmental advocates in Austin on Tuesday.

- EPA continues make contact with the remaining 18 counties regarding private water well testing and our research indicates that private well testing is available across the state for a nominal fee. EPA has confirmed 21 of the 39 disaster declaration counties are currently providing private well testing for area residents. Texas Department of State Health Services also offer bacteria testing for $28 through the state lab. The TCEQ website provides public information and a list of NELAP Accredited Labs for well owners to analyze water samples for a fee.

- Community Liaisons (CLs) are assisting citizens of impacted counties by providing information about dealing with the environmental hazards of returning to flood damaged homes as well as obtaining input about other challenges or concerns.

- The Houston Branch and the Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch will both begin collection and staging of recovered orphan containers today. Corpus Christi Branch expects to complete activities within the next week. Houston Branch is projected to complete these activities within 30 days and Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch within 20 days.



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- As EPA prepares to complete Emergency Support Function (ESF-10) activities in several counties, we are developing a standardized procedure to formally document transition to State and local officials.

- EPA will complete sampling of the 34 Superfund sites in Texas potentially impacted by the storm by Wednesday, September 13, 2017. Preliminary analytical results should be available by Friday, September 16, 2017. A communications plan is being developed to ensure that public messaging will be delivered as soon possible once preliminary data is received. EPA continues to hear reports that the New York Times is sampling Superfund sites.

- EPA is preparing a plan and schedule to complete sampling of the nine Superfund sites in Louisiana that were potentially impacted by the storm.

- State and Federal aerial assets continued mosquito control spraying operations in Aransas, San Patricio, Kleberg, Jackson, Dewitt and Lavaca counties during the evening hours of September 10, 2017.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

The EPA liaison to the City of Houston Mayor's Office completed coordination with officials from the Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security at the city's Emergency Operations Center. No new concerns or issues were raised. The liaison will demobilize and return to Dallas today.

Community Liaison (CL) teams traveled to six counties to meet with emergency managers and residents. They provided educational materials regarding dealing with the environmental hazards of returning to flooded areas and home. CLs also collected feedback on environmental and health challenges of particular concern to the residents. One emergency manager mentioned that EPA was the first federal agency to contact them.

**DEBRIS RECOVERY**

EPA's representative at the JFO indicates that the state is currently assessing its capacity to manage debris collections and disposal. While we do not expect to receive a direct mission assignment for this work, it is possible that EPA may get tasked to assist with field observation of collection and segregation activities, and oversight of landfill operations.

**AIR MONITORING**

The four EPA air quality technical specialists deployed to Houston conducted total volatile organic compounds (VOC) area monitoring with the TAGA mobile laboratory. They monitored in the Manchester area, Lawndale Rd near Lyondell Basell, and on N. Witter St. between Pasadena Refining Systems Inc. (PRSI) and Kinder Morgan's Pasadena Terminal. The team detected benzene below levels of concern at all three locations. Additional monitoring will continue, in an effort to identify the source.

Weather conditions permitting, the TAGA will monitor around additional facilities, not yet monitored. Monitoring is planned for the following facilities by the TAGA: Huntsman, Eco

Services Operations, Goodyear, Flint Hills Resources – Houston Chemical Plant, and the TPC Group – Houston Plant. If significant readings are identified, additional monitoring will be conducted by the EPA field team.

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

| Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Status** | **Opened** | | **Closed** | |
| | **9/10/2017** | **Number of Targets Remaining Open** | **9/10/2017** | **Cumulative** |
| Corpus Christi Branch | 5 | 12 | 0 | 88 |
| Houston Branch | 29 | 250 | 1 | 69 |
| Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch | 14 | 62 | 1 | 8 |
| NRC Reports | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| **TOTALS** | **48** | **326** | **2** | **167** |
| Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item. | | | | |

| Daily/Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges (NON-VESSELS) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Status** | **Opened** | | **Closed** | |
| | **9/10/2017** | **Number of Facilities/Spills Remaining Open** | **9/10/2017** | **Cumulative** |
| Corpus Christi Branch | 1 | 13 | 1 | 36 |
| Houston Branch | 4 | 48 | 1 | 35 |
| Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch | 2 | 16 | 0 | 10 |
| NRC Reports | 2 | 146 | 5 | 51 |
| **TOTALS** | **9** | **223** | **7** | **132** |

| Daily/Cumulative Summary of VESSELS | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Status** | **Opened** | | **Closed** | |
| | **9/10/2017** | **Number of Vessels Remaining Open** | **9/10/2017** | **Cumulative** |
| Corpus Christi Branch | 33 | 433 | 22 | 151 |
| Houston Branch | 2 | 58 | 1 | 11 |
| Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch | 37 | 42 | 1 | 5 |
| NRC Reports | 0 | 9 | 1 | 6 |
| **TOTALS** | **72** | **542** | **25** | **173** |

**FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES**

| FIELD TEAMS ON 9/10/2017 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Teams** | **Alpha** | **Bravo** | **Charlie** | **TOTAL** |
| **Hazard Evaluation** | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| **Oil Discharge Assessment** | 2 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| **ER/Orphan Container Recovery** | 1 | 9 | 1 | 11 |
| **Oil/Vessel Recovery** | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| **Staging Areas** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| **Air Operations** | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| **Air Monitoring** | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| **Water Infrastructure Assessment – Drinking Water** | 0 | 10 | 1 | 11 |
| **Water Infrastructure Assessment – Wastewater** | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| **TOTAL** | 7 | 37 | 6 | 50 |

CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

The Oil Discharge Recovery Group identified 21 vessels throughout the Aransas Pass Municipal Marina. A team monitored salvage operations associated with the towing vessel Sandy Point on San Jose Island. Another team oversaw the raising of the towing vessel Belle Chase with the assistance of salvage straps from a barge crane. The vessel is now safely afloat and moored at Gulf Copper.

The Staging Pad continued to receive, process, categorize, bulk and dispose of recovered containers. Team members conducted field screening of materials in collected containers and transported them to the Staging Pad.

| | **CONTAINERS** | | | | **TOTAL** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Drums [55 gals]** | **Small Containers [<55 gals]** | **Large Containers [>55 gals]** | **Cylinders** | |
| 9/9/2017 | 17 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 23 |
| **TOTAL TO DATE** | 74 | 36 | 8 | 18 | 136 |

HOUSTON BRANCH:

Three Hazard Evaluation (HE) Teams identified 9 sites in Brazoria County and Matagorda County. Assessments are 100% complete in Liberty, Austin, Waller, Chambers, Montgomery, Fort Bend, Galveston, Bastrop, Lee, Fayette, Colorado, Wharton, Walker, Matagorda, Harris and Brazoria Counties. The HE Group intends to keep two teams on standby if needed for future operations.

The Air Recon Team conducted an aerial overflight of Sargent, Freeport, Chocolate Bayou, Galveston and Houston to photograph 32 vessels and locate potential staging areas. They identified four new sites.

ASPECT continued to survey Drinking Water, Wastewater, and other Risk Management Program facilities and is expected to be complete the requested surveys this week.

PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

Three HE Teams conducted assessments in Cook Lake, Vidor, Beaumont Yacht Club, Angelet Marina, Orange and Neches City and located 12 sites (7 vessels).

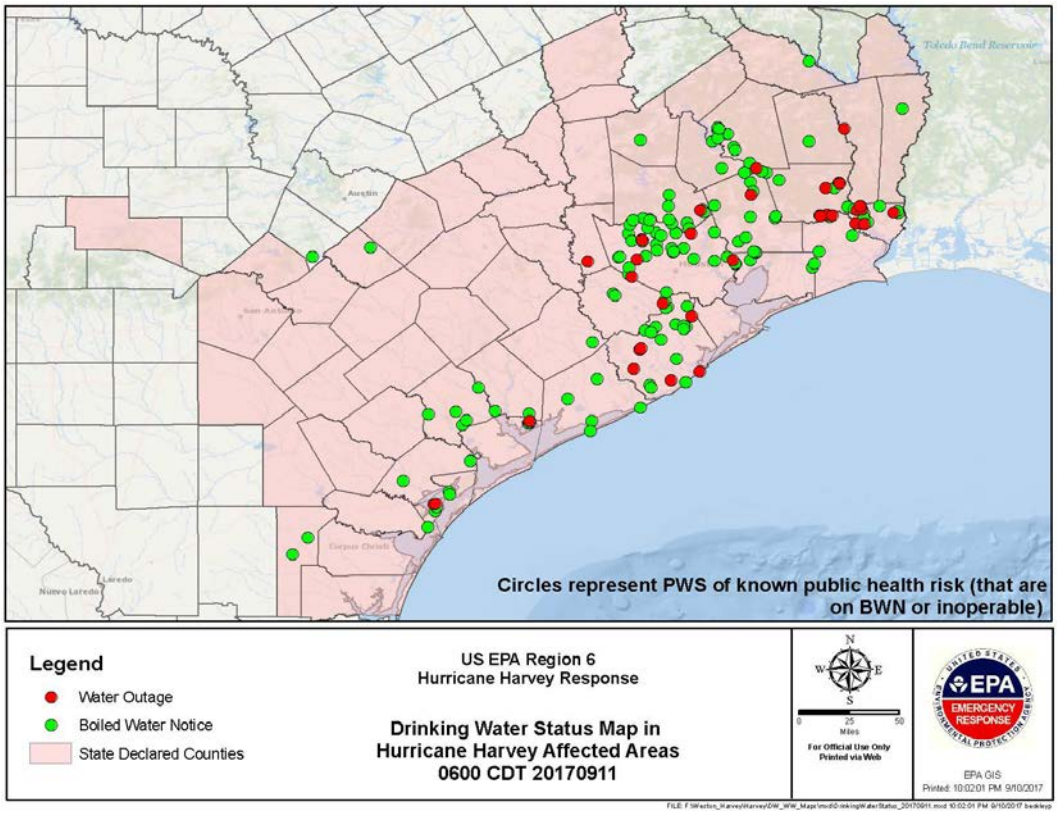
The Branch prepared the staging pad to receive orphan containers from recovery operations.

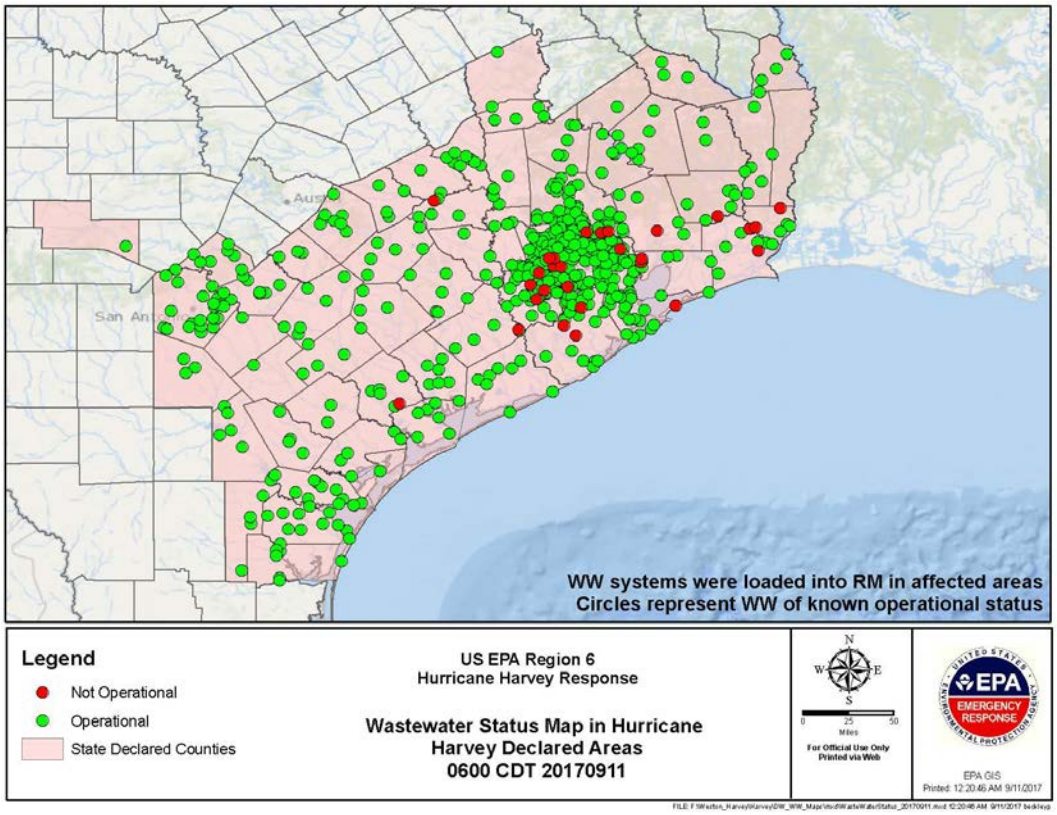
The Emergency Response team completed the removal of oil released from an antique train in Bryan Park in Port Arthur, TX. The incident was reported to EPA by the Jefferson County Emergency Manager.

**DRINKING WATER / WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS**

Fifteen EPA personnel are providing support to TCEQ for drinking water and wastewater system assessments in the Houston Branch.

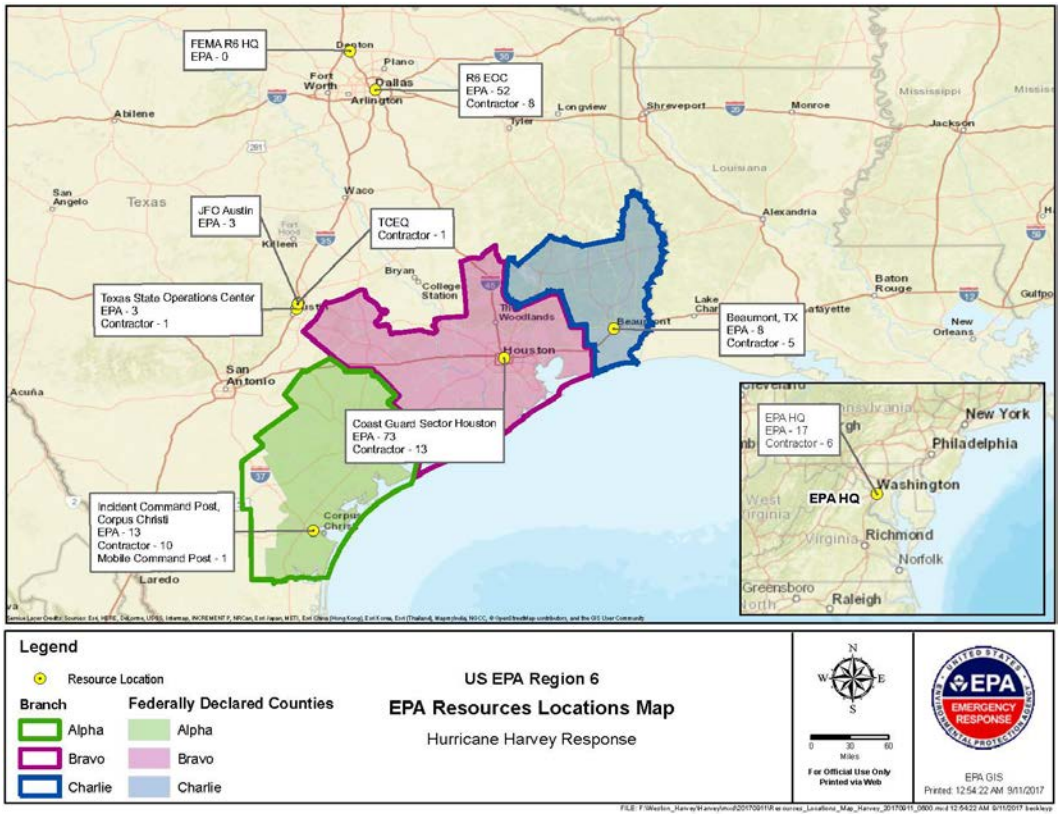
| Drinking Water and Wastewater Assessments (September 10, 2017) | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Assessment Types** | **Daily Assessments** | **Total Assessments** |
| On-Site DW Assessments | 44 | 391 |
| On-Site WW Assessments | 24 | 265 |
| Phone DW Assessments | 33 | 5033 |
| Phone WW Assessments | 4 | 3027 |






## EPA RESOURCES

| Personnel | EPA Dallas, TX | FEMA Denton, TX | Texas JFO Austin, TX | Texas SOC Austin, TX | TCEQ Austin, TX | Houston, TX | Corpus Christi, TX | Beaumont, TX | HQ EOC, Wash, DC | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **EPA** | 52 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 73 | 14 | 8 | 17 | 170 |
| **START** | 8 | | | 1 | 1 | 13 | 10 | 5 | | 38 |
| **ERRS** | | | | | | 19 | 6 | 5 | | 30 |
| **Other Contractors** | 1 | | | | | | | | 6 | 7 |
| **TOTAL** | 61 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 105 | 30 | 18 | 23 | 245 |




## FUNDING

**SitRep**
**September 10, 2017, UPDATED 1300 hours**

| Funding Sources | Funding Ceiling | Funding Ceiling Less Indirect | Spent to Date | Remaining Balance | Daily Burn Rate | Days Remaining |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Non Mission Assignment | N/A | | $64,200.00 | $0.00 | | |
| MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-01 | $275,000.00 | $242,741.00 | $30,512.00 | $212,229.00 | $2,848.00 | 74.52 |
| MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-03 | $10,092,000.00 | $8,908,113.00 | $5,972,473.41 | $2,935,639.59 | $323,516.01 | 9.07 |
| Totals: | $10,367,000.00 | $9,150,854.00 | $6,067,185.41 | $3,147,868.59 | | |

** Indirect costs represent the money the Cincinnati Shared Service Center takes off the top to manage the Mission Assignments

NOTE: This report includes estimated cumulative costs of the HQ EOC charging under MA#03. Awaiting clarification on the start date for charging the Mission Assignment, but at this time all estimated costs to date(9/10/17) are included

## REFINERIES / FUEL WAIVERS

- EPA extended the multi-state fuel waiver to September 26, 2017.
- EPA has granted all open fuel waivers requested to date.
- EPA has issued a No Action Assurance for the Use of Vapor Recovery Systems in Texas Related to Hurricane Harvey (September 1, 2017). EPA will exercise its discretion not to pursue enforcement for violations of the vapor recovery requirements for fuel loading and unloading under 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart XX and Part 63 Subparts, R, Y, CC, BBBBBB, and 30 Texas Administrative Code sections 115.212, .214.
- The Internal Revenue Service red dye fuel waiver to covers the entire state of Texas

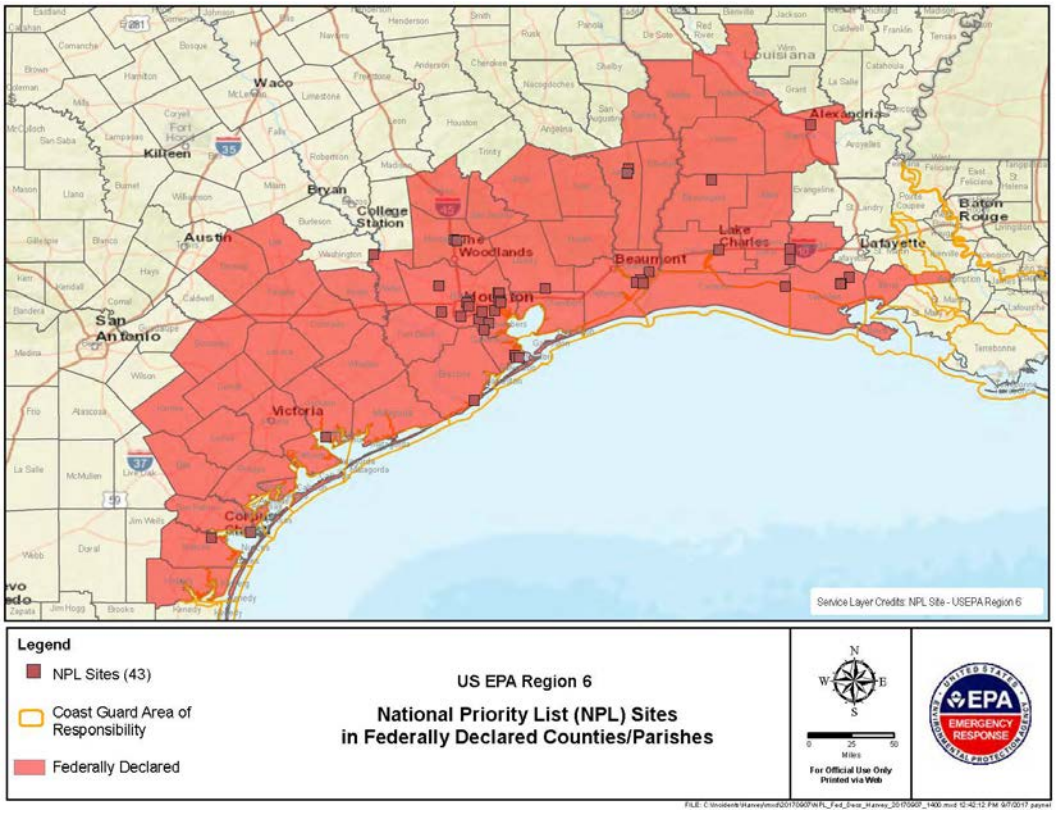
**FEDERAL SUPERFUND NPL SITES - (These activities are being done concurrently but outside of the current Mission Assignment)**

- EPA directed potentially responsible parties or independently started collecting samples at 34 Texas Superfund Sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. EPA had five field teams sampling by September 11, 2017. Sampling has been completed at 11 sites. The sampling is part of a longer-term assessment that will be used to transition sites to their normal cleanup operations. Sampling will be completed by September 13, 2017, with preliminary un-validated results expected by September 16, 2017.

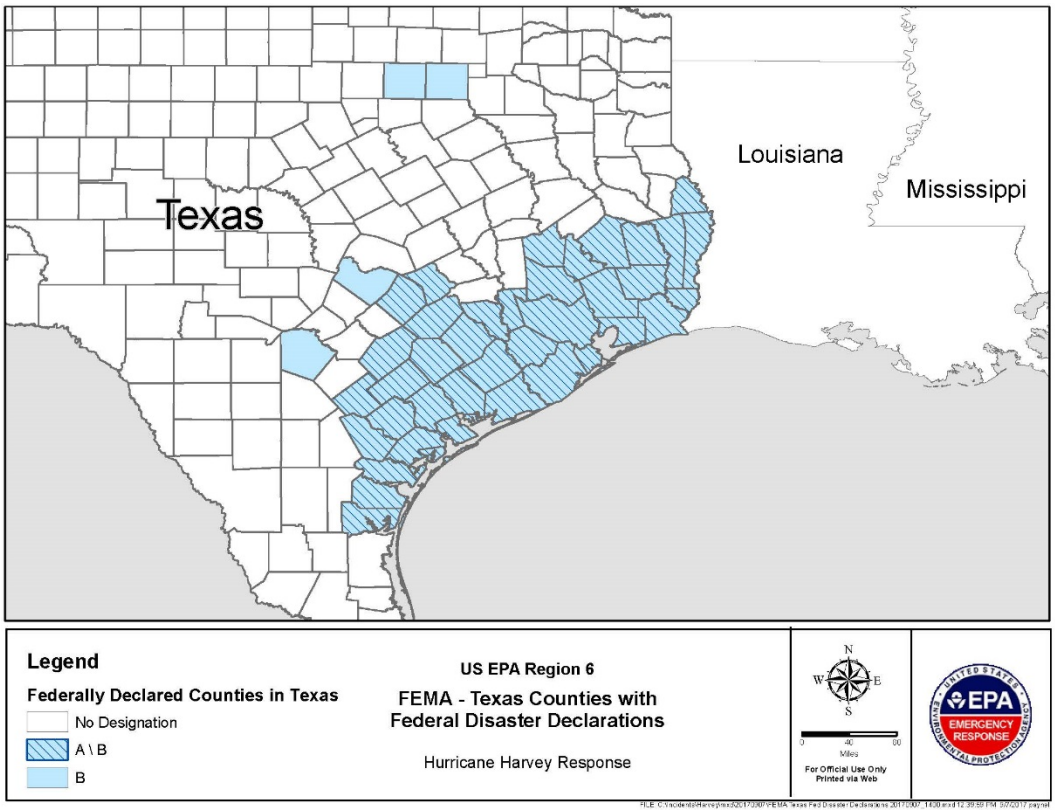
- All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the affected area have been assessed. Of these, 41 sites have been cleared, and two sites (San Jacinto Pits and US Oil Recovery) require additional follow-up.

    - U.S. Oil Recovery Update: The potentially responsible party continues to pump down Lift Station #1 to maintain freeboard and continues to coordinate repair/replacement of the damaged/displaced plugs in the piping in the lift station and sand filter. The freeboard level in the lift station is close to being stabilized.

    - San Jacinto Waste Pits Update: Cap repairs are complete on the western part of southern berm while repairs continue on the remaining berm sections. Manual probing of capped areas, is expected to be completed on September 11, 2017. Three areas on the northwest part of the cap were identified for further investigation. The EPA Dive Team will conduct a dive on September 11, 2017 to collect sediment samples from areas identified as missing armor stone. Additional sediment samples will be collected from the western cell.




## FEMA – TEXAS COUNTIES WITH DISASTER DECLARATIONS



Corpus Christi (Alpha) Branch – EPA Staff doing Hazard Evaluation by Debris Pile

Houston (Bravo) Branch – Waste Pad Preparation

Alpha Branch – EPA OSCs Sampling Drums at Pad in Level B

Bravo Branch – EPA OSC working with USCG on Container Removal

San Jacinto Pits: Completed repairs on the western portion of the southern berm.

San Jacinto Pits: The potentially responsible party continues with cap repairs on western cell and central berm.