Hurricane Harvey 2017
9/12/2017 – 0700 CDT Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- EPA completed review of the Texas Water Development Board's requests for flexibility in using State Revolving Loan Funds to address damage by the hurricane and will respond to the state of Texas today. EPA believes that flexibilities can implemented either through existing authority or by working together to process expedited waivers to current limitations. Where EPA Region 6 concurrence or approvals are necessary, EPA will plan to complete action on these requests by the next business day.

- EPA Environmental Justice Director Arturo Blanco will travel to Port Arthur today and then on to visit the Alabama-Coushatta tribe on Wednesday, September 12, 2017.

- EPA and TCEQ will meet with environmental advocates in Austin today.

- EPA has confirmed that private well testing is available to residents. 21 of the 39 disaster declaration counties offer an active program to provide private well testing for area residents. The remaining 18 counties have access to state programs to provide for private well testing at a nominal fee.

- Community Liaisons are assisting 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 and Port Arthur/Beaumont Branches began recovering and staging orphan containers yesterday, September 11, 2017. The Corpus Christi Branch expects to complete activities within the next week. The Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch is projected to complete these activities within 20 days and the Houston Branch within 30 days, unless new work or mission assignments are tasked.

- Discussions at the Joint Field Office are now focusing on debris management operations. FEMA requested that EPA provide a debris management expert at the JFO. EPA will fill that role today. EPA's role in debris operations will become more clear in the coming days for both Texas and Louisiana.

- EPA will complete sampling of the 34 Superfund sites in Texas potentially impacted by the storm by Thursday. Preliminary analytical results should be available soon and will be released to the public. Final QA/QC data will be available in about 10 days.

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- On September 12, 2017, EPA will begin sampling of the nine Superfund sites in Louisiana that were potentially impacted by the storm. Sampling will be completed by September 15, 2017 and preliminary analytical results should be available by September 18, 2017.

- EPA continues air monitoring activities around the Valero plant in southeast Houston to determine potential sources of VOCs in the community. Teams monitored the following facilities with the TAGA: Huntsman, Eco Services Operations, Goodyear, Flint Hills Resources-Houston Chemical Plant, TPC Group-Houston Plant. In addition to TAGA monitoring, the team did additional total VOC monitoring along the Eco Services Operations fence line and in the community adjacent to Eco Services Operations. No significant readings of VOCs were observed.

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture published a statement on September 11, 2017, that Certified Organic Farmers with livestock and crops in areas sprayed with "Naled" will not lose their organic certification status.

- ASPECT has completed flight operations for this response and will demobilize in the next two days and be available to support response operations associated with Hurricane Irma.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Hurricane Harvey Story Map is final and has been posted on response.epa.gov. We are working to provide more visibility on EPA's activities in Corpus Christi.

In a September 11, 2017, Reuters news article, "*US Coast Guard, EPA cleaning up a dozen Texas chemical spills after Harvey*", information provided by the Unified Command shed light on efforts to assess and respond to reported spills of hazardous materials and oil, including at 12 facilities where Unified Command teams have assessed conditions.

EPA's Public Information Officer will report daily to ESF-15 (External Affairs), enabling EPA and TCEQ news releases to reflect hazardous materials/oil assessment and recovery work of Corpus Christi, Houston and Port Arthur/Beaumont Branches, including the recovery of orphan containers.

EPA will update community environmental justice advocates via conference call on September 12, 2017. Additionally, EPA and TCEQ will meet with environmental advocates in Austin today, September 12, 2017.

Community Liaison (CL) teams continue to travel to affected counties to meet with emergency managers and other local officials. They are providing educational materials regarding dealing with the environmental hazards of returning to flooded areas and home. CLs also are collecting feedback on environmental and health challenges of particular concern to the residents.

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 in Texas, 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 TAGA mobile laboratory monitored along the perimeter of the neighborhood adjacent to the Valero Houston Refinery, as well as between facilities and the Manchester neighborhood. The TAGA is expected to finish monitoring in the vicinity of the remaining industry in the Houston area.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Status	**Opened**		**Closed**	
	9/11/2017	**Number of Targets Remaining Open**	**9/11/2017**	**Cumulative**
Corpus Christi Branch	1	11	1	91
Houston Branch	24	224	4	104
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	5	63	2	9
NRC Reports	0	2	0	1
TOTALS	**30**	**300**	**7**	**205**
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**	
	9/10/17**	**Number of Facilities/Spills Remaining Open**	**9/10/17****	**Cumulative**
Corpus Christi Branch	1	8	0	35
Houston Branch	3	47	1	41
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	1	17	1	10
NRC Reports	18	147	7	55
TOTALS	**23**	**219**	**9**	**141**
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered/cleaned up. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by a Responsible Party or not found upon return to location. * The number of targets remaining opened has changed as QA/QC efforts have taken place and due to corrections made to the coding. Previous amounts were the total number of targets opened overall, not just those remaining open.				

** No updated numbers available for 9/11/2017

Daily/Cumulative Summary of VESSELS				
Status	**Opened**		**Closed**	
	9/11/2017	**Number of Vessels Remaining Open**	**9/11/2017**	**Cumulative**
Corpus Christi Branch	24	239	2	151
Houston Branch	2	45	1	11
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	7	42	0	5
NRC Reports	3	6	0	6
TOTALS	**36**	**332**	**3**	**186**

FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

FIELD TEAMS ON 9/11/2017				
Teams	**Alpha**	**Bravo**	**Charlie**	**TOTAL**
Hazard Evaluation	1	2	2	5
Oil Discharge Assessment	2	7	1	10
ER/Orphan Container Recovery	1	6	1	8
Oil/Vessel Recovery	5	0	0	5
Staging Areas	1	1	1	3
Air Operations	0	1	1	2
Air Monitoring	0	3	0	3
Water Infrastructure Assessment – Drinking Water	0	11	0	11
Water Infrastructure Assessment – Wastewater	0	5	0	5
TOTAL	10	36	6	52

Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date					
	CONTAINERS				**TOTAL**
	Drums [55 gals]	**Small Containers [<55 gals]**	**Large Containers [>55 gals]**	**Cylinders**	
9/10/2017	10	20	0	9	39
9/11/2017	10	24	3	6	43
TOTAL TO DATE	94	80	11	33	218

CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

Two Oil Discharge Assessment Teams monitored salvage operations associated with the Signet Enterprise and the towing vessel Sandy Point. The Sandy Point was successfully lifted and removed from the beach.

Five Oil Discharge Recovery Teams monitored responsible party removal operations in Rockport, Fulton, Key Allegro, Cove Harbor, and Conn Brown Marinas.

HOUSTON BRANCH:

A Hazard Evaluation Team responded to a report of a chlorine release in the vicinity of Chocolate Bayou. No evidence of a chlorine release was found by the team.

Seven Discharge Assessment Teams assessed or recovered 25 targets within Galena Park, the Woodlands, and Chambers County. Two boat teams reassessed areas off San Bernard and Bastrop to verify there were no additional targets in those areas.

Six Emergency Response/Orphan Container Recovery Teams recovered 40 containers from Colorado, Austin, Waller, Fort Bend, Harris, Wharton, and Montgomery Counties.

The ASPECT flew the remaining Risk Management Program sites in the greater Houston area. Data will be processed and posted today, September 12, 2017. ASPECT has completed flight operations for the Harvey Response.

PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

The Inland Task Force Hazard Evaluation Group, Orphan Container Recovery Group, and Oil Discharge Task Force conducted assessments in Lumberton, Sour Lake, Port Arthur, Sabine Pass, Beaumont, Bridge City, Beaumont Yacht Club, and Rose City.

Two Hazard Evaluation Teams conducted patrols of Orange County, the marine fueling pier and Rainbow Marina. Sixteen targets were assessed and no active discharges or significant environmental threats were observed.

The Discharge Assessment Team investigated four targets. Two of the targets will be recovered/ cleaned up, one target was inaccessible due to its location inside a refinery and one was cleaned up/recovered and subsequently closed.

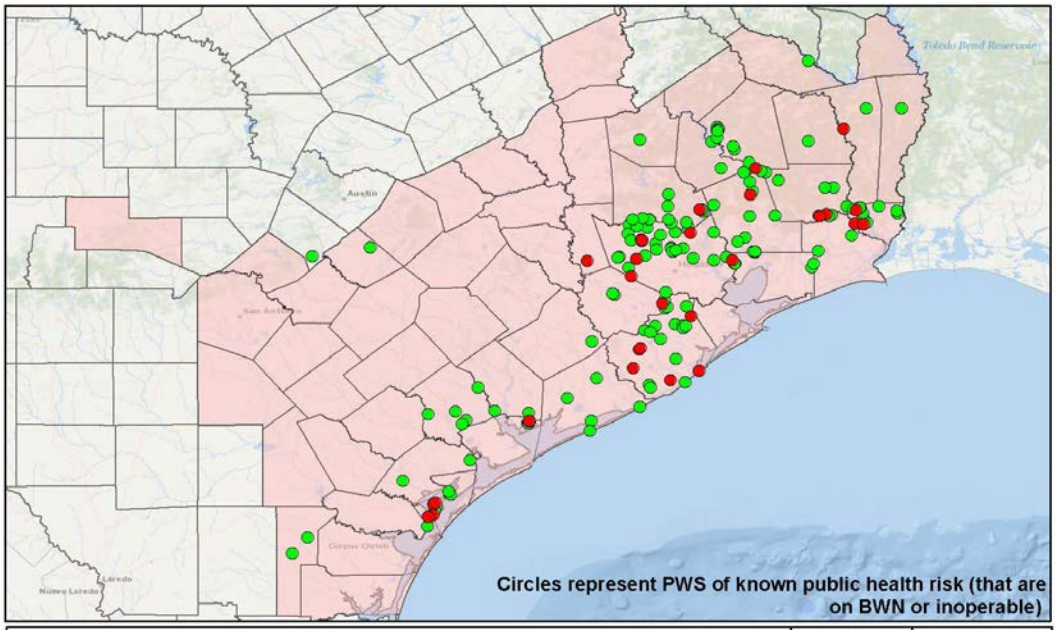
The Orphan Container Recovery Team investigated and recovered 14 targets. During an investigation of a 4,000-gallon diesel tank, a small leak was found. Another team will recover the tank on September, 12, 2017.

The staging area was completed and began receiving orphan containers today.

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 11, 2017)		
Assessment Types	**Daily Assessments**	**Total Assessments**
On-Site DW Assessments	43	467
On-Site WW Assessments	26	297
Phone DW Assessments	20	5211
Phone WW Assessments	0	3150



Legend

- Water Outage
- Boiled Water Notice
- State Declared Counties

US EPA Region 6
Hurricane Harvey Response

Drinking Water Status Map in Hurricane Harvey Affected Areas 0600 CDT 20170912

N W E S
0 25 50 Miles
For Official Use Only Printed via Web

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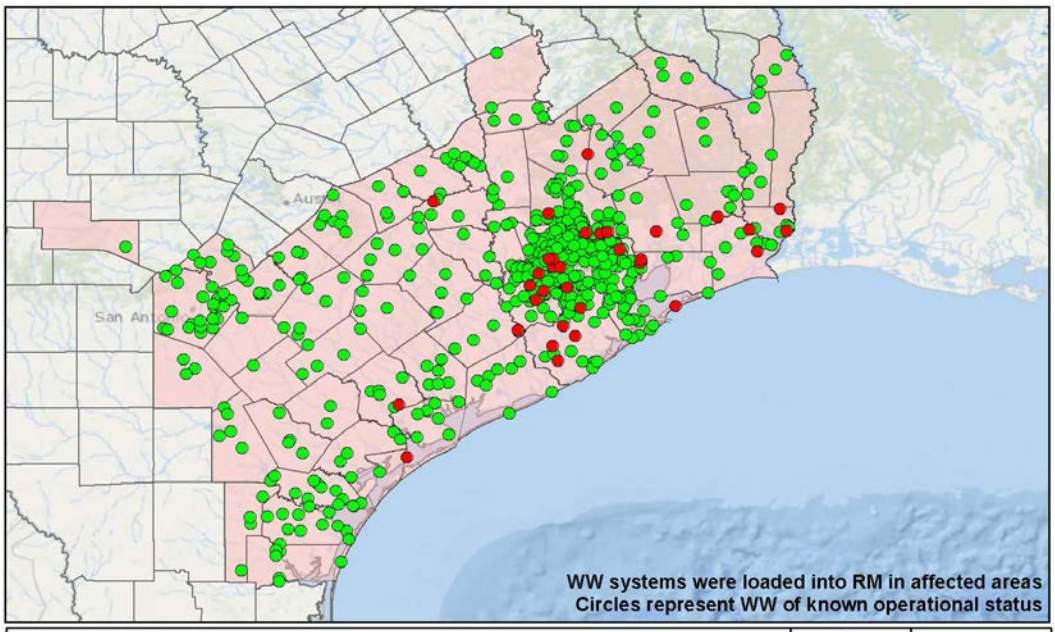

Legend

- Not Operational
- Operational
- State Declared Counties

US EPA Region 6
Hurricane Harvey Response

Wastewater Status Map in Hurricane Harvey Declared Areas 0600 CDT 20170912

N W E S
0 25 50 Miles
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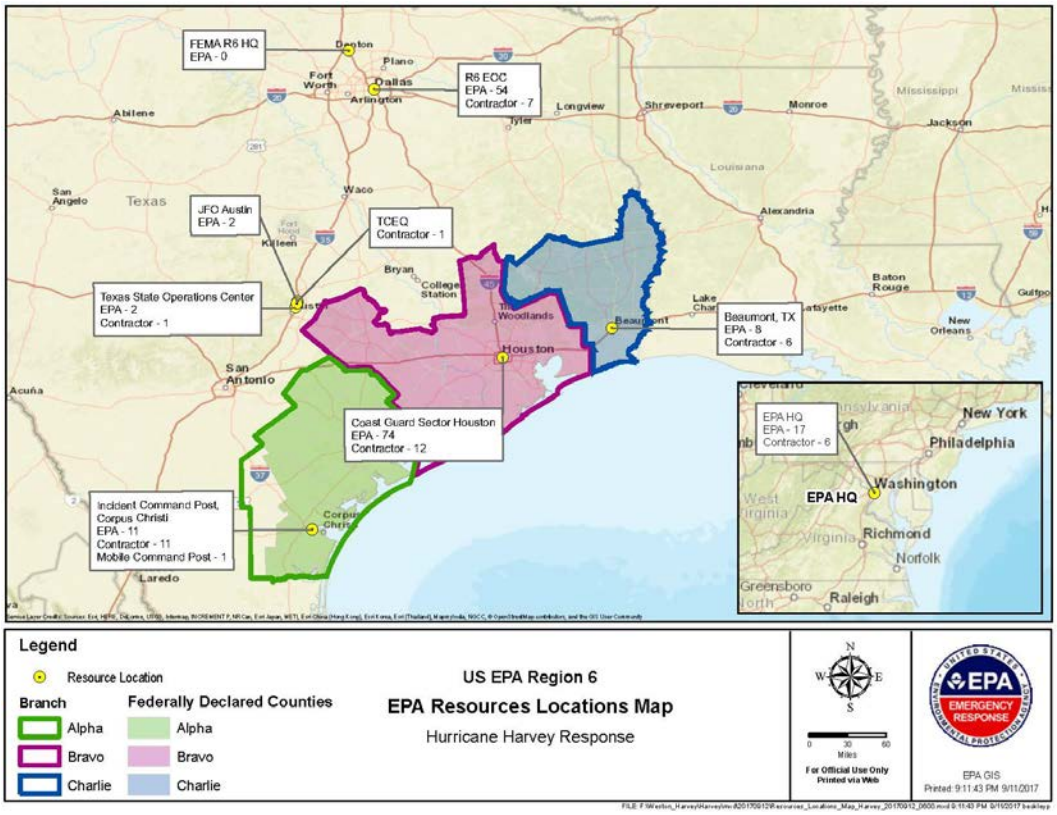
EPA RESOURCES

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	54	0	2	2	0	74	12	8	17	169
START	7			1	1	12	11	6		38
ERRS						19	6	5		30
Other Contractors	1								6	7
TOTAL	62	0	2	3	1	105	29	19	23	244



FUNDING

SitRep
September 11, 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	$2,032.00	104.44
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-03	$10,092,000.00	$8,908,113.00	$6,146,909.21	$2,761,203.79	$320,450.23	8.62
Totals:	$10,367,000.00	$9,150,854.00	$6,241,621.21	$2,973,432.79		

** 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

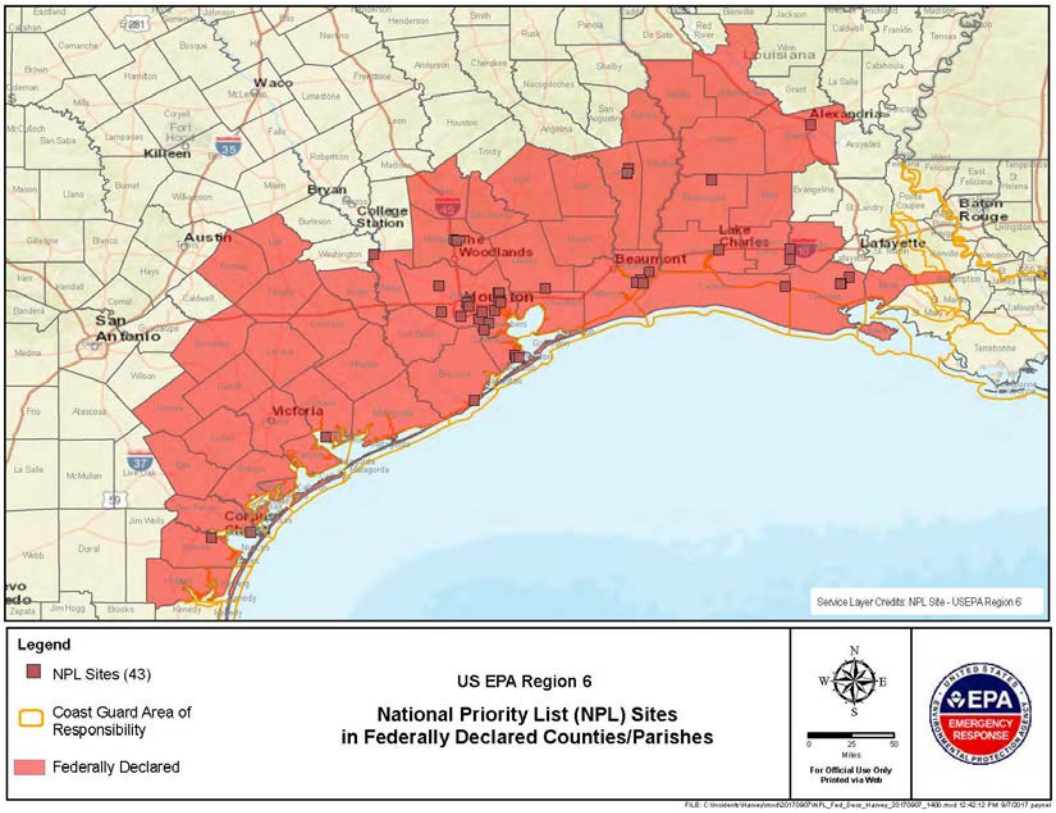
FEDERAL SUPERFUND NPL SITES - (These activities are being done concurrently but outside of the current Mission Assignment)

- EPA directed potentially responsible parties or independently started collecting samples at 34 Texas Superfund Sites and nine Louisiana Sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. Six EPA field teams, along with potentially responsible parties, completed sampling at 26 sites. Sampling in Texas will be complete by September 13, 2017 and sampling in Louisiana will be complete by September 15, 2017. Preliminary un-validated results for sites located in Texas are expected by September 16, 2017 and for the sites located in Louisiana preliminary results are expected by September 18, 2017.

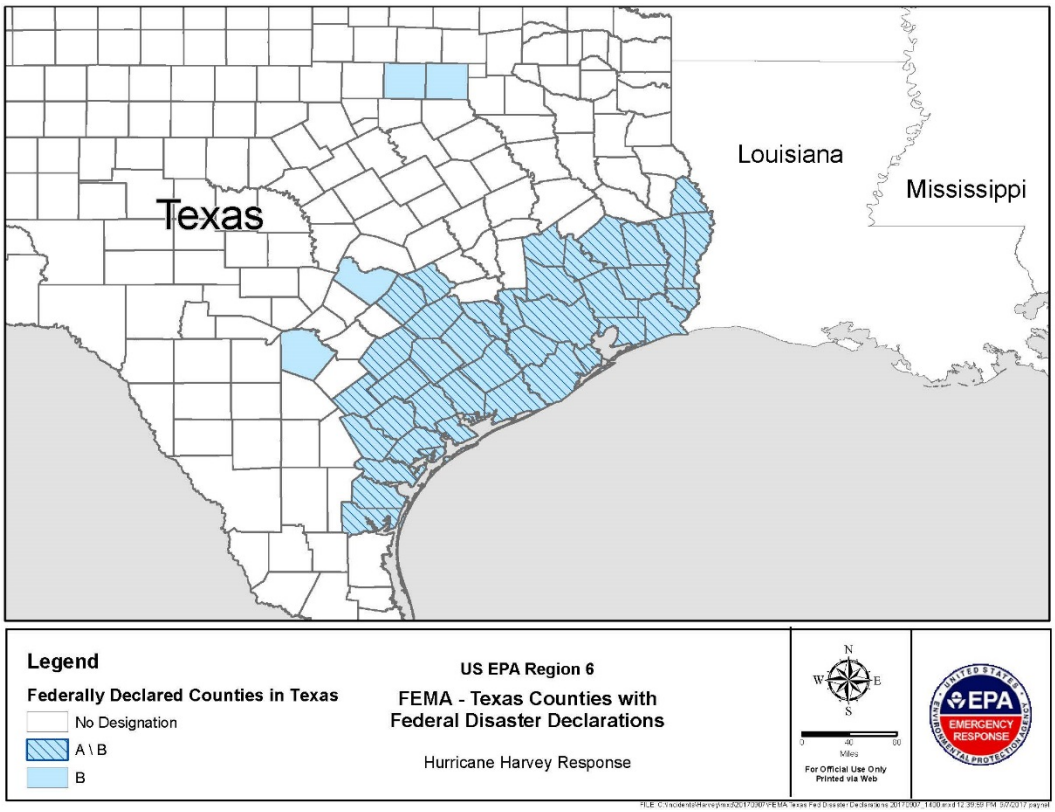
- All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the affected area have been assessed. Of these, 41 sites have been cleared and two sites (San Jacinto Waste Pits and U.S. Oil Recovery) require additional follow-up.

    - 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 continue on the remaining berm sections and samples continue to be taken and sent for analyses. The Dive team assessed areas identified as having missing armor stone and a sample plan will be developed based on this assessment.



FEMA – TEXAS COUNTIES WITH DISASTER DECLARATIONS



Corpus Christi Branch – Orphan Container Recovery Team

Corpus Christi Branch – Field Screening Containers

Houston Branch – Water Infrastructure Assessment Team

Corpus Christi Branch – Field Screening of Unknown Container Contents

Corpus Christi Branch – Field Screening Containers