From: Peterson, Mary
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2017 2:43 PM
To: Opalski, Dan
Subject: FW: Draft Harvey 1700 Update
Attachments: 09082017 1700 Update (draft).docx

I haven't looked at it yet. Let me know your comments or send directly to R6HarveySITL.

Mary P. Peterson, Director

Superfund Division
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Cleaning Up & Restoring the Heartland

Under the foundational principles of integrity, sound science, & rule of law, we value: *Accountability* ★ *Teamwork* ★ *Service* ★ *Respect*

From: R6HarveySITL
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 2:40 PM
To: Peterson, Mary ; Edlund, Carl ; Phillips, Pam ; Smalley, Bryant ; Campbell, Todd
Subject: Draft Harvey 1700 Update

7009611

Hurricane Harvey 2017
9/8/2017 – 1700 CDT Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Governor Abbot announced John Sharp as commissioner for the Commission to Rebuild Texas. Commissioner Sharp is also the Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System. Governor Abbott asked that all State and Federal Agencies work together to expedite cleanup and "cut through the red tape".

- 46 additional targets were identified, bringing the total number of Open targets to 262. Nine (9) targets were closed bringing the total number of Closed targets to 105. Targets are defined as orphaned tanks, drums, containers, and compressed gas cylinders. Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered, deemed unrecoverable, determined to not pose a threat, or inaccessible.

- 96 Spills/Discharges were identified, bringing the total number of Open Spills/Discharges to 577. 45 Spills/Discharges were closed bringing the total number of Closed Spills/Discharges to 143.

- Texas Governor Greg Abbott is traveling to Victoria and Houston today, September 8, 2017, and Beaumont on Saturday. He will be accompanied by EPA Acting Regional Administrator Sam Coleman today and Senior Advisor to the Administrator Kell Kelly on Saturday.

- According to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) website, about 2,800 drinking water systems affected by Harvey have been contacted. Of those, 1,920 systems are fully operational, 168 have boil-water notices, and 50 are shut down. Both the EPA and the TCEQ are contacting remaining systems to gather updated information of their status. The EPA and the TCEQ are working closely with the Texas National Guard, including the 6th Civil Support Team (supporting TCEQ in Corpus Christi), Arkansas National Guard, 61st Civil Support Team (supporting TCEQ in Houston), and the Texas State Guard Engineering Group, and other local and state agencies to continuously monitor water systems. Assistance teams are in the field working directly with system operators to expedite getting systems back to operational status.

- TCEQ will expand to 24-hour operations; additional EPA staff are being deployed to the State Operations Center to provide support during the additional operational period.

- FEMA ordered 800 drums of the EPA approved pesticide, "Naled", for spraying locations in the impacted area. Aerial application is scheduled to begin the night of September 9, 2017.

- According to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) website, currently, 903 of approximately 1,219 wastewater treatment plants are fully operational and 34 are inoperable in the affected counties. The agencies are aware that releases of wastewater from sanitary sewers are occurring, due to the historic flooding and are actively working to monitor facilities that have reported spills, conduct outreach and provide technical guidance to all other wastewater facilities in flood-impacted areas. The EPA and the TCEQ are working closely with the Texas National Guard, including the 6th Civil Support Team (supporting TCEQ in Corpus Christi), Arkansas National Guard, 61st Civil Support Team (supporting the TCEQ in Houston), and the Texas State Guard Engineering Group, and other local and state agencies to continuously monitor wastewater systems. Assistance teams will be deployed to work directly with system operators to expedite getting systems back to operational status.

- EPA will publicly release data generated from the sampling of flood water and ambient air during the Arkema fires. No detections were above levels of concern outside the 1.5-mile evacuation area. EPA will also release TAGA air monitoring data from the Manchester neighborhood in Houston. Air monitoring results indicate no chemical concentration above the state selected screening levels. EPA continues to investigate complaints in the area.

- EPA has received notification from eight companies covering 12 Louisiana/Texas gulf facilities that impending storms may cause a delay or otherwise impeded compliance with provisions within their Consent Decrees. It is anticipated that 25-27 refineries in the affected area will be submitting their formal force majeure claims. This is in addition to the multiple claims anticipated from chemical facilities along the gulf.

- DOT Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) has issued an emergency wavier order to assist EPA's efforts to remove, transport and dispose of hazardous materials as part of its response to Hurricane Harvey. The order will be published in the Federal Register and is effective immediately. PHMSA is available to provide technical assistance.

- The U.S Department of Justice (DOJ) agreed to suspend the end-of-September filing date related to Clean Water Act sanitary sewer violations by the City of Corpus Christi. The City requested that DOJ suspend the September deadline in light of the hurricane. DOJ and the City's Counsel are discussing when to reschedule meetings to complete negotiations of a Consent Decree. DOJ is expected to also provide a similar action for the City of Houston consent decree negotiations.

- Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) has requested flexibility in allowances and procedural changes to the State Revolving Loan Fund program so funds can be used to address immediate recovery and future resiliency efforts. TWDB and EPA will meet on Monday to discuss further.

- Texas will likely approve open burning of green or woody debris in all impacted areas

including Houston, Corpus Christi and Beaumont/Port Arthur today. This is needed to expedite recovery, save dollars and save landfill space. The State may request a No Action Assurance (NAA) letter from EPA to address possible violations of national ambient air quality standards under Clean Air Act.

- The National Incident Management Assistance Team (NIMAT) completed its assignment to establish an initial structure to respond to Hurricane Harvey. Eleven key leadership positions were established and are now being filled by other staff allowing the initial NIMAT to demobilize. This was the first time that the NIMAT concept was used and it proved very successful.

- EPA is on-site to oversee RP assessment of the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund site. The Dive Team will continue to monitor activities and identify areas of interest until completion, which is estimated completion on September 11, 2017. The Dive Teams plan to begin underwater cap inspection on September 11, 2017.

- The EPA Liaison to the City of Houston Mayoral Office provided an update on EPA operations to Mayor Sylvester Turner at the Emergency Operations Center Senior Leadership meeting on September 7, 2017. The mayor announced that several city departments will resume normal hours and operations. A number of agencies and departments will continue to report to the Emergency Operations Center, including the EPA.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

No afternoon update at this time.

Yesterday EPA briefed Houston's Mayor Turner on EPA operations to support their Emergency Operations Center. The mayor announced that several city departments are resuming normal hours and operations. A number of agencies and departments will continue to report to the Emergency Operations Center, including the Houston Health Department, Houston METRO, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and EPA.

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee submitted a request for information on Arkema, their Risk Management Plan and inspection history. EPA is compiling a response to the request.

Water sampling kits will be assembled by lab personnel once the materials arrive in Houston. The Community Liaison network will then distribute kits in counties with private residential wells. Testing will be provided to citizens free of charge and will provide screening results on bacterial contamination.

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry – Region 6 activated the Texas Poison Control Center Network (six call centers) to address chemical and toxic exposure questions from the public. A daily situation report is produced through the collaboration of multi-state and federal environmental and health agencies and is shared by the Poison Control Center. The Poison Control Center Network also provides direct patient assistance by communicating free medical advice to those exposed to oil, gas, peroxides, benzene or other health concerns.

DEBRIS RECOVERY

EPA currently has no mission assignment for debris recovery operations.

AIR MONITORING

According to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) website, one of the many preparations for Hurricane Harvey included the EPA, the TCEQ, and other monitoring entities temporarily shutting down several air monitoring stations from the greater Houston, Corpus Christi, and Beaumont areas. Since then, state and local authorities have been working to get the systems up and running again. As of Wednesday Sept. 6, the TCEQ air monitoring network is 100 percent operational in Corpus Christi, 88 percent in Houston, and 71 percent in Beaumont. The network is expected to be fully operational again by next week. Of the available air monitoring data collected from Aug. 24-Sept. 5, all measured concentrations were well below levels of health concern. Monitors are showing that air quality at this time is not concerning, and residents should not be concerned about air quality issues related to the effects of the storm.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Status	**Opened**		**Closed**	
	9/6/2017	**Number of Targets Remaining Open**	**9/6/2017**	**Cumulative**
Corpus Christi Branch	2	32	4	73
Houston Branch	29	193	4	28
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	15	34	1	4
NRC Reports	0	3	0	0
TOTALS	**46**	**262**	**9**	**105**
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				
Status	**Opened**		**Closed**	
	9/6/2017	**Cumulative**	**9/6/2017**	**Cumulative**
Corpus Christi Branch	34	425	30	99
Houston Branch	8	59	2	14
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	1	11	10	10
NRC Reports	53	82	3	20
TOTALS	**96**	**577**	**45**	**143**

FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

APSECT has been requested by Operations to fly priority target areas identified by the Monitoring Division of Texas Commission for Environmental Quality. These priority targets will be flown September 8th. ASPECT information will be evaluated by the Dallas Environmental Unit following standard procedures.

Oversight of fuel transfer of the Signet Enterprise continued, with a total of 74,000 gallons being transferred to date. All remaining petrochemical products (lube oil, hydraulic oil) are in the process of being removed from the Signet Enterprise.

The Corpus Christi Branch added one water and one land team to their Hazard Evaluation group in order to evaluate the remaining three targets identified during previous Hazard Evaluation Mobilizations.

The Alpha Branch conducted Orphan Container Recovery in Port Aransas and other Branch locations. Team members prioritized and evaluated Rapid Needs Assessment Targets. Containers discovered in their obvious place of origin that were not been displaced during the disaster are not being recovered unless they are leaking or otherwise compromised. The Branch plans to recover all orphan containers identified.

Oil Discharge Response Teams coordinate and monitor Responsible Party led operations in Island Moorings, Rattle Snake Point, Holiday Beach, Ingleside, Seadrift, Harbor of Refuge and respond to NRC and CHEMTEL Reports as appropriate and initiate recovery actions as needed.

EPA continues activities at the Staging Pad to receive, process, categorize, bulk, and dispose of hazardous materials.

	CONTAINERS				TOTAL
	Drums [55 gals]	**Large Containers [<55 gals]**	**Large Containers [>55 gals]**	**Cylinders**	
9/7/2017	1	0	1	3	5
Total to date	51	35	7	10	106

HOUSTON BRANCH:

The number of Hazard Evaluation Teams was reduced from 26 to 24

The number of Water Infrastructure Assessment Groups was reduced from 11 to 10. The Group continues to conduct site assessments at drinking water facilities. The Group prioritizes facilities and determines the overall operational status of the facilities through an on-site evaluation. The NDOW Water Infrastructure Evaluation SOP is used to evaluate the facilities and Response Manager is utilized to document the evaluation.

EPA's ASPECT conducted assessments over the Valero Houston Refinery and continues to fly in Austin, Fort Bend counties with a list of special state given targets (roughly 28) of RMP and water infrastructure facility targets. Aerial recon continues in Lee, Bastrop and Fayette Counties to assess orphan containers and oil discharge targets as water continues to recede. Emergency Orphan Container recovery is assigned as targets are found and logged.

The TAGA is not operational today due to a technical malfunction. Personnel are working to make repairs. Air monitoring in southeast Houston near multiple chemical facilities is ongoing by EPA using mobile equipment.

The Hazard Assessment Group has completed assessment in Fort Bend Wharton, Matagorda, Brazoria Counties. The Group will continue assessing Galveston and Harris Counties. The Group will continue the evaluation of targets, monitor recovery operations and respond to any reports of active pollution discharges.

The Oil Discharge Assessment Group is conducting facility site visits to verify cleanup efforts at specified targets.

A new container recovery pad is being constructed at 2200 Dorsett Street in Houston, including vegetation removal and construction of containment areas.

PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

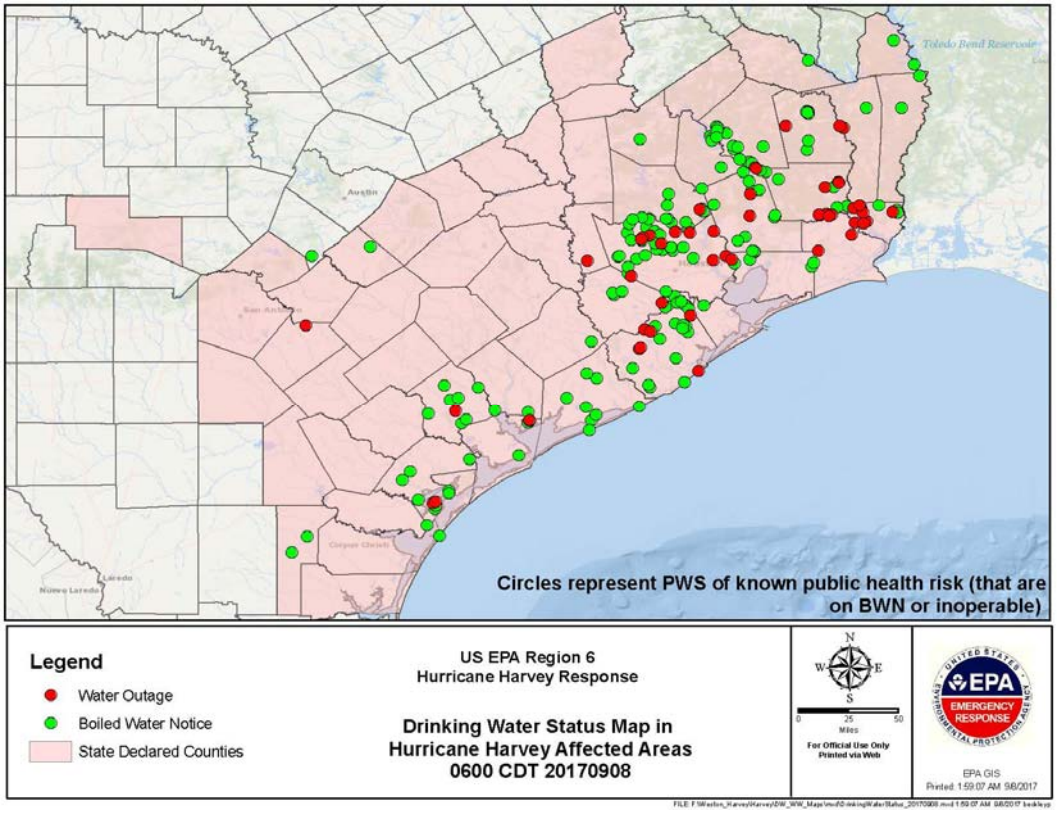
The Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch has added a Hazard Evaluation/Recovery Team to be available on standby, as needed, as floodwaters recede. Hazard and Waterway assessments are being conducted with the TGLO and the TCEQ. EPA will populate the NDOW software, prioritize and conduct assessment of the assigned targets. Identified spills of oil and/or hazardous substances are being mitigated.

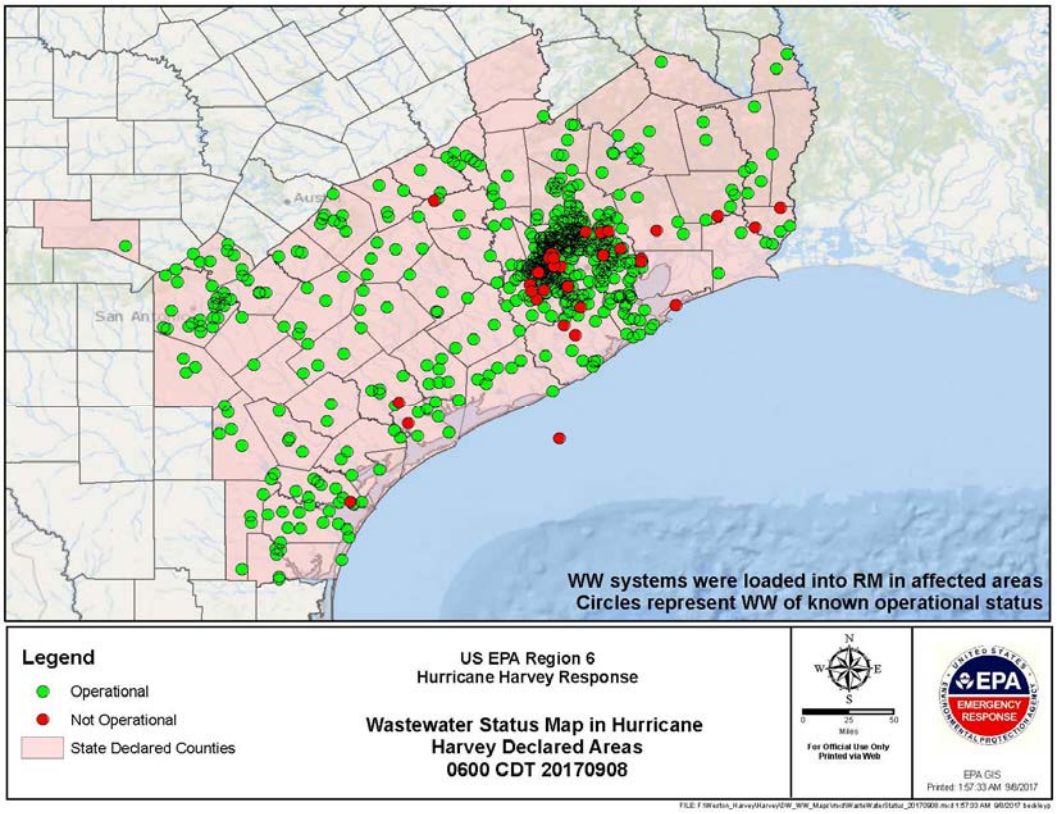
Charlie's Drinking Water Technical Support Team is being deployed to provide technical support to City of Beaumont Water System and set up a Command Post in Beaumont/Port Arthur area.

DRINKING WATER / WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS

EPA is providing support to TCEQ for drinking water and wastewater system assessments. EPA staff working the Austin Phone Bank have demobilized. In addition, drinking water and wastewater assessment teams are currently established in Houston. Current Houston response activities consist of 16 EPA personnel conducting drinking water and wastewater assessments in the Harris County area.

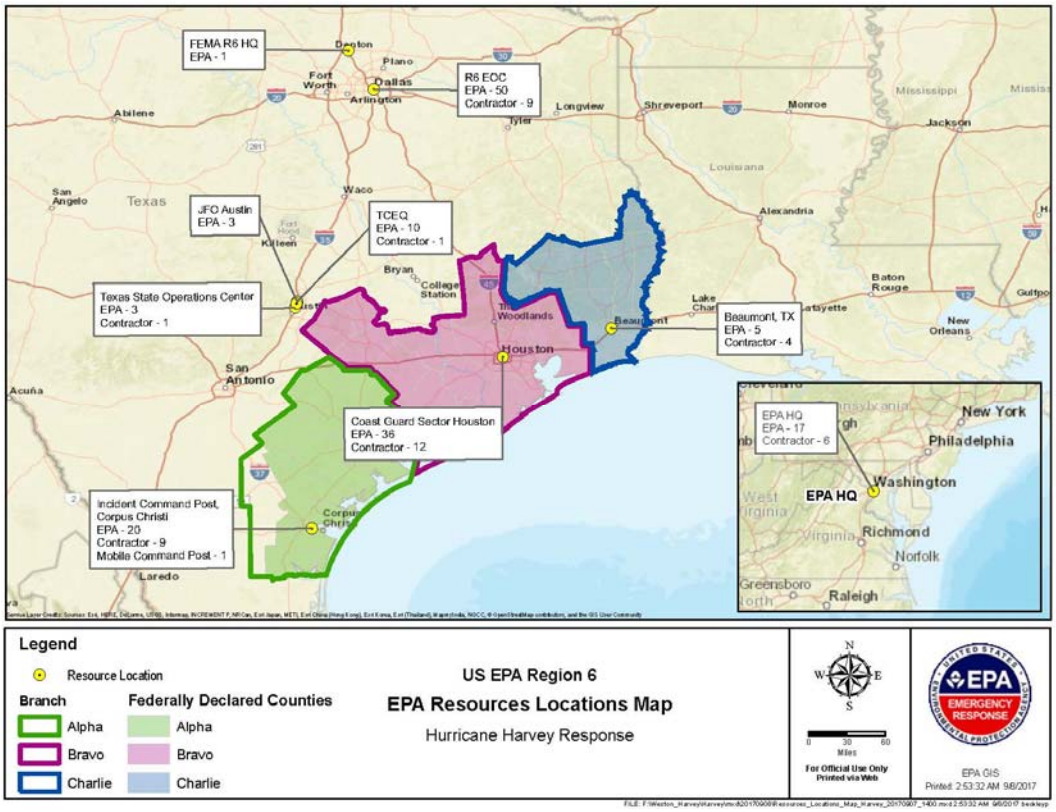
Drinking Water and Wastewater Assessments (September 7, 2017)		
Assessment Types	**Daily Assessments**	**Total Assessments**
On-Site DW Assessments	80	256
On-Site WW Assessments	47	181
Phone DW Assessments	253	4852
Phone WW Assessments	111	2908





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	50	1	3	3	10	36	21	5	17	146
START	9			1	1	12	9	4		36
ERRS						4	9	3		16
Other Contractors	1								6	7
TOTAL	60	1	3	4	11	52	39	12	23	198



FUNDING

SitRep

September 8, 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	$24,816.00	$217,925.00	$2,848.00	76.52
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-03	$8,592,000.00	$7,584,077.00	$5,248,884.21	$2,335,192.79	$282,745.51	8.26
Totals:	$8,867,000.00	$7,826,818.00	$5,337,900.21	$2,553,117.79		

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

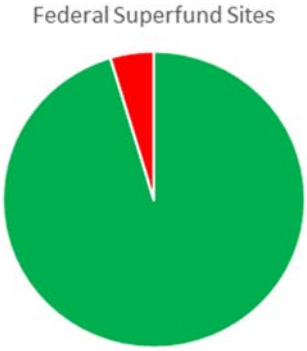
REFINERIES/FUEL WAIVERS

- EPA has extended the current multi-state fuel waiver to September 26th.
- 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 expanded the red dye fuel waiver to cover the entire state of Texas, not just the 110 counties as before.

FEDERAL SUPERFUND NPL SITES

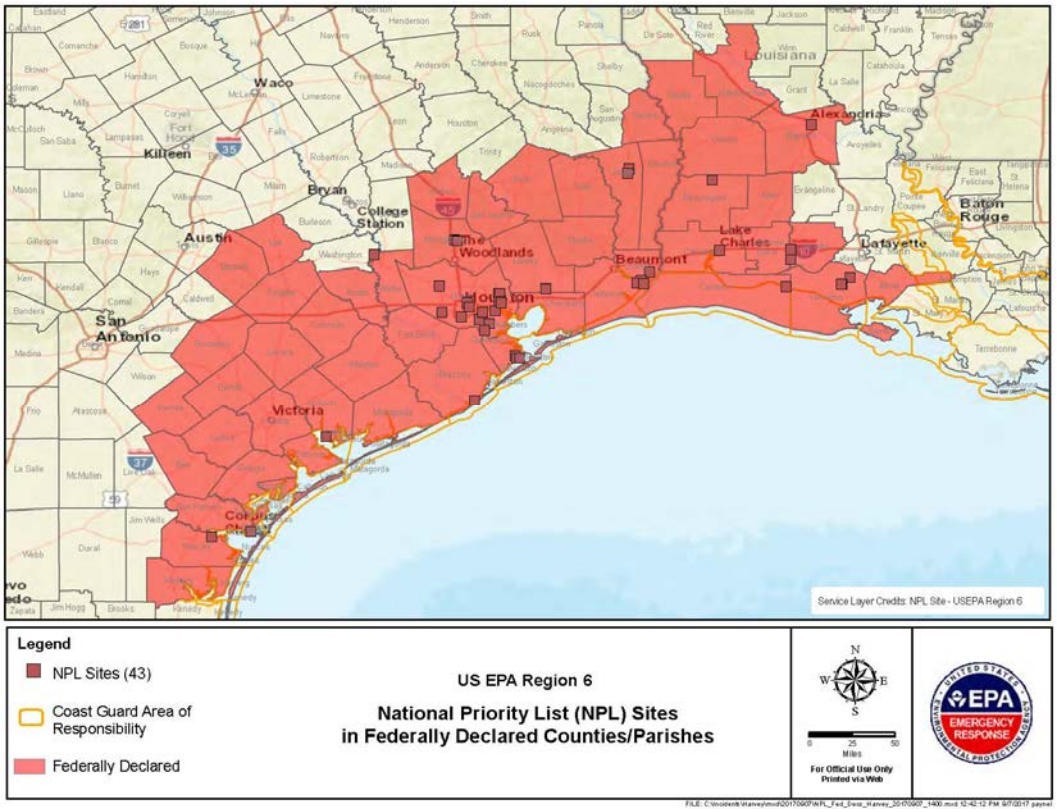
- All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the affected area have been assessed. Of these, 41 sites have been cleared, and two sites (San Jacinto Pits and US Oil Recovery) require additional follow-up.

- On, September 7, 2017, a total of 16 vacuum truckloads of water (approximately 80,000 gallons) were removed and shipped offsite for disposal. The potentially responsible party continues operating pumping equipment and a storage tank to maintain and control overflow. Sampling of the lift station water continues. In addition, soil and ground water samples were collected September 8, 2017. No sheen or odor was observed in the overflowing water.

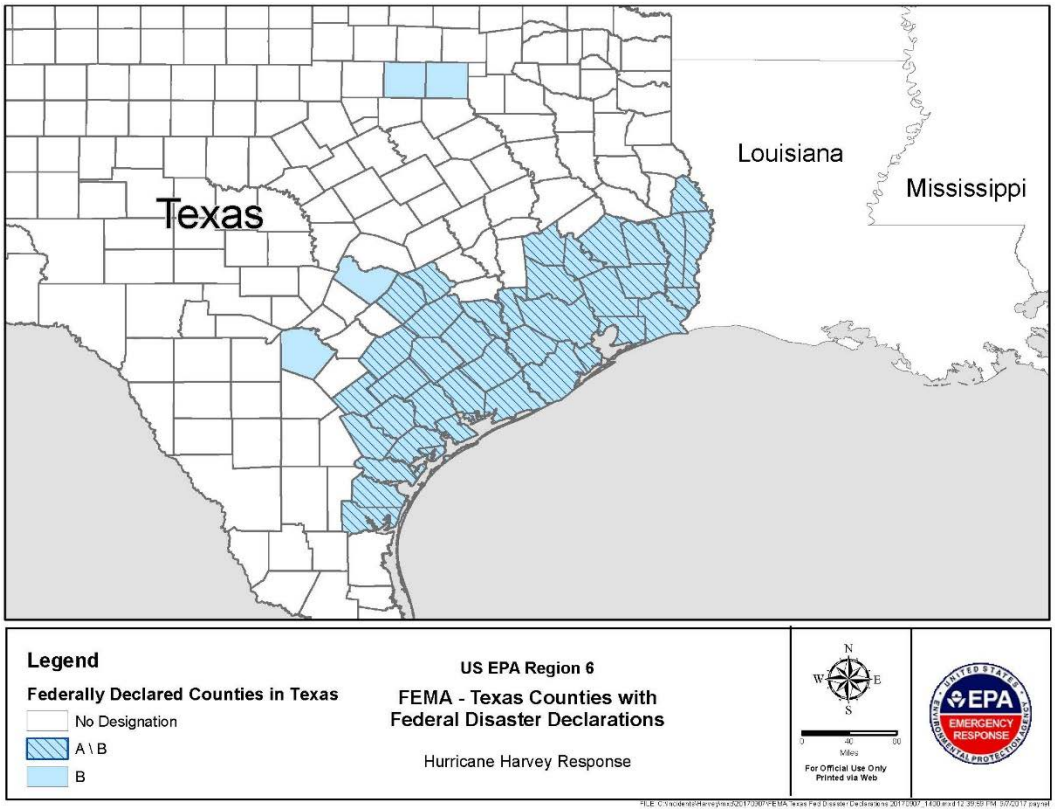


- Cap repairs and underwater cap surveying continues at the San Jacinto Superfund Site. The EPA dive team is on-site and integrated in the cap survey efforts. Sampling of sediment and surface water sample was completed on September 7, 2017.

- EPA started collecting samples at 34 Texas Superfund Sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. Two EPA field teams arrived on September 8, 2017, and will be joined by three additional field teams on September 11, 2017. Sampling has been completed at seven sites. The sampling is part of a longer-term assessment that will be used to transition sites to their normal cleanup operations.



FEMA – TEXAS COUNTIES WITH DISASTER DECLARATIONS



9/8/2017 FIELD ACTIVITIES

PHOTOS

Houston-EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) is talking with members of the public

Corpus Christi-EPA OSC is assessing cylinder for recovery

Houston-EPA Water Assessment team members reviewing Response Manager Data