# EPA Response to Hurricane Harvey

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ACTING REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

REGION VI

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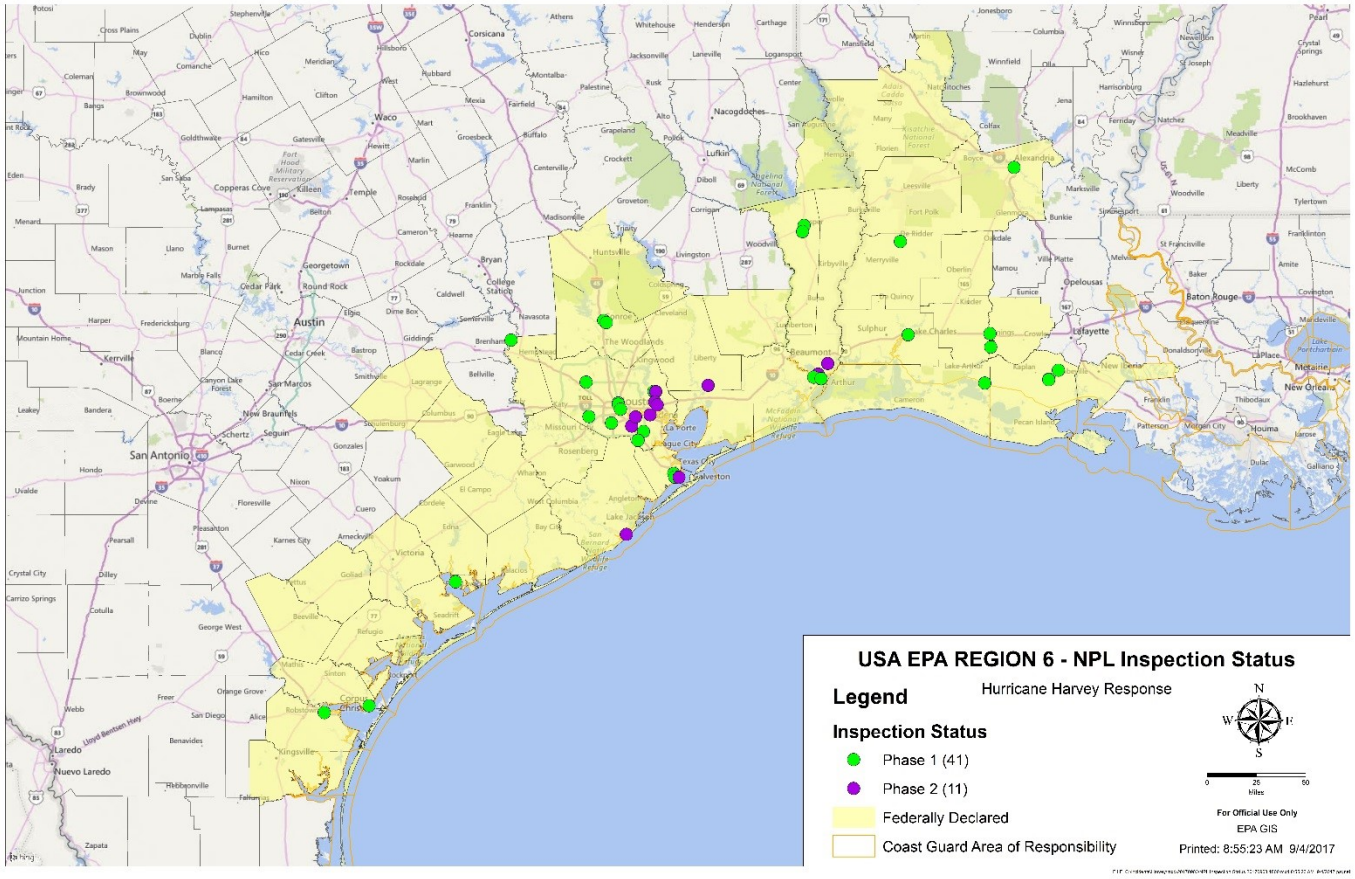
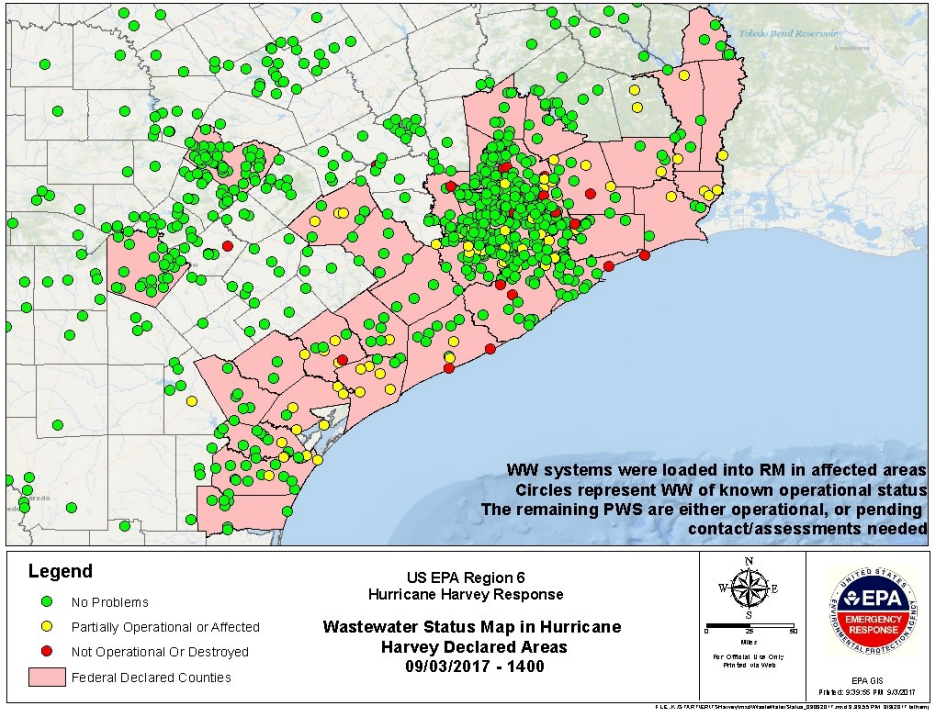
# NPL Site Inspections

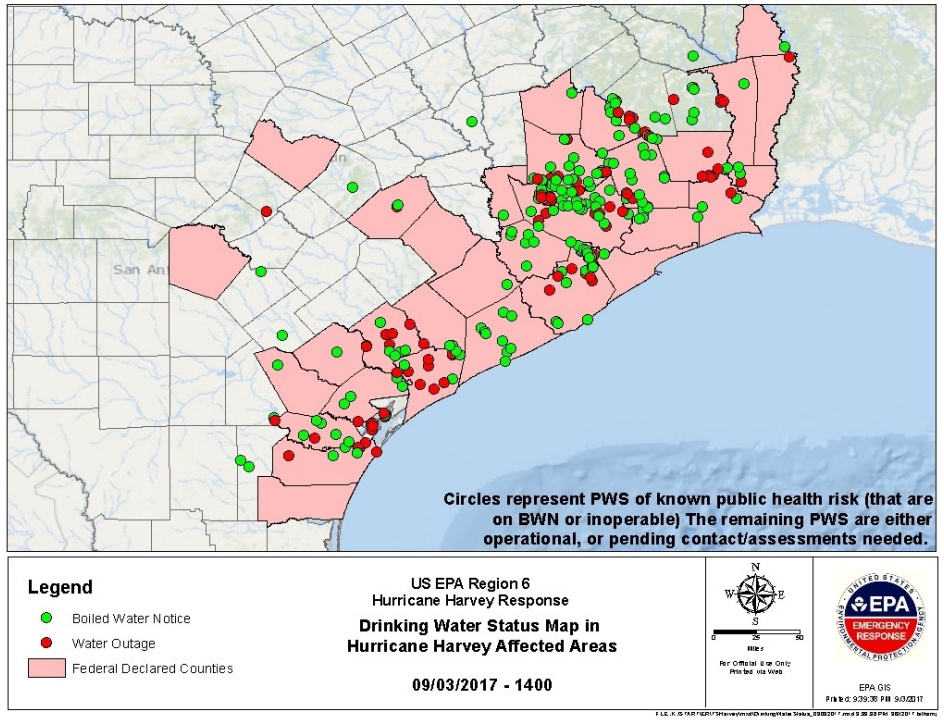



Status/Schedule for NPL Inspection

- All 43 NPL sites in TX and LA have been assessed; no immediate impacts observed except:
  - San Jacinto, TX – EPA dive team overseeing testing of cap integrity
  - US Oil, TX – Samples collected 9/5 to assess integrity of chlorine tank
- Follow-up confirmatory sampling scheduled for all 34 TX NPL sites to begin 9/7/17 and results will be available soon.

# DW/WW Systems in Partnership with TCEQ




- 10 EPA personnel assisting TCEQ in Austin working phone bank
- 12 EPA personnel on teams with TCEQ assessing systems and providing assistance to restore operations.

# Accomplishments To Date

- 93 Hazard Evaluations completed and closed
- 86 spills/discharge investigation completed
- 96 orphan containers recovered
- 168 drinking water assessments completed
- 115 waste water assessments completed
- 7 fuel waivers signed, 7th waiver covers 38 states
- 4 No Action Assurance letters signed
- Daily Aerial over-flights for air monitoring
- Ground support air monitoring
- 43 initial NPL site evaluations completed
- EPA fully integrated with TCEQ and TGLO in Unified Command

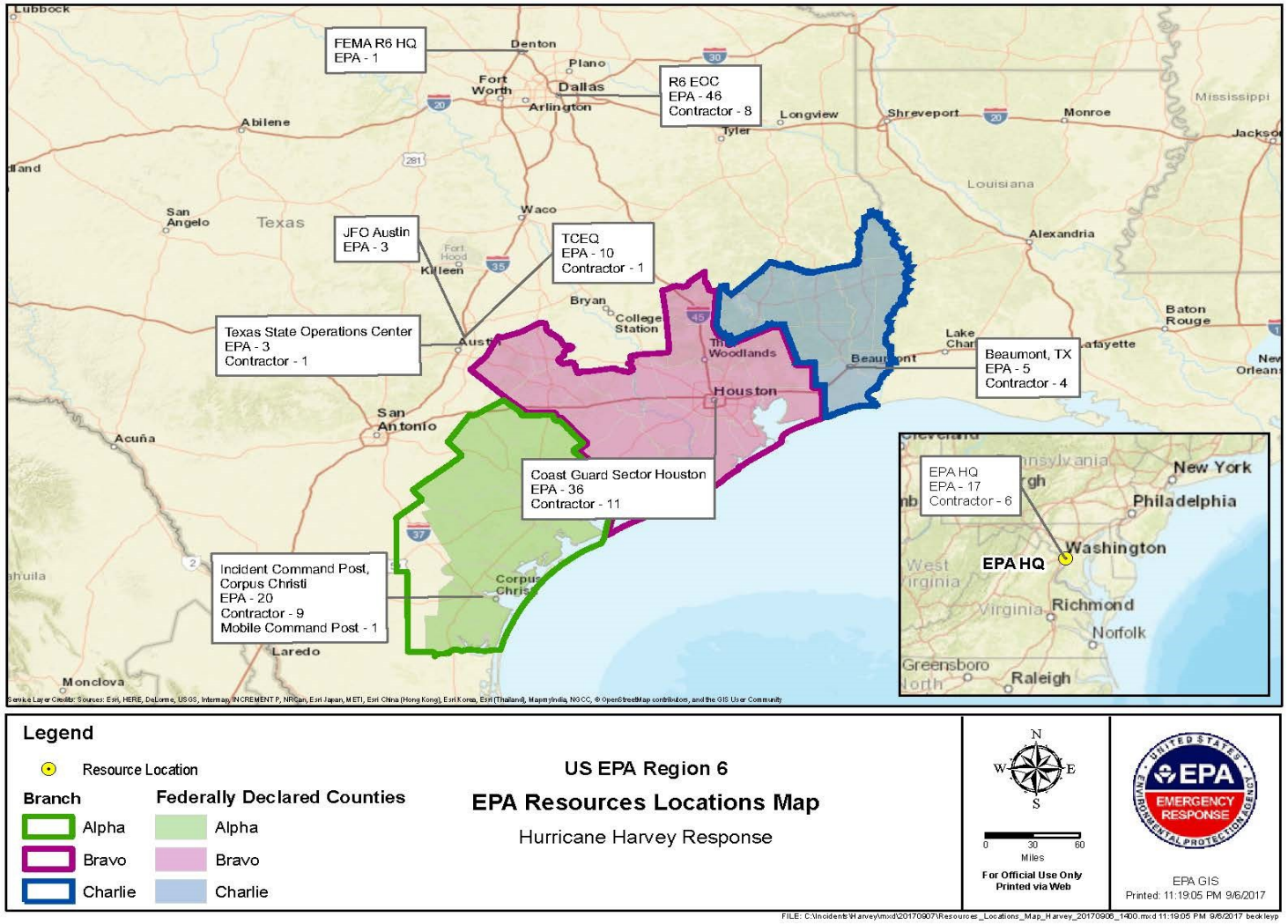
# Projected Work

- Mobile lab air monitoring in Port Arthur and Houston area this week
- Additional support to DW/WW teams
- Confirmatory sampling at 34 TX NPL sites initiated 9/5/17
- Private well testing
- Public outreach support for flood water hazards
- Container recovery
- Chemical and oil response as needed
- Debris – EPA involvement uncertain at this time
  - Can perform collection of HHW, E-Goods, and White Goods if tasked

# Arkema Response

- EPA has provided 24-hour support to the incident.
- EPA role is to monitor environmental impacts of any releases
- Nearly constant aerial surveillance to monitor chemicals and heat imagery
  -no significant chemicals detected
- Ground air monitoring throughout incident – no significant chemicals detected.
- EPA working in Unified Command with Harris County Sheriff's Office, Harris County Fire Marshall's Office, Crosby Fire Department, TCEQ, and Arkema.
- Arkema responsible for post-incident site management, under TCEQ oversight.

# EPA Resources




## Resources

- 142 EPA Staff
- 56 Contract Staff

# EPA Assets

Portable High-Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification System (PHILIS)

Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA):
EPA's Mobile Sampling and Analysis System

# Effective Site Clean-up

- EPA integrates and leverages authorities to maximize effective clean-up of sites.
- EPA and TCEQ partner to solve problems that are bigger than individual EPA or TCEQ authorities.
- TCEQ conducted the Harvey impact inspection of the Geneva Superfund site (one of the 42 in the affected area) because it was passed to Texas for Operation and Maintenance after EPA cleanup.
- EPA conducted an initial cleanup at the CES Environmental Services site (a chemical blending site in the middle of a residential community) and then passed the site to TCEQ's voluntary cleanup program for long term remediation.