Hurricane Harvey 2017
9/14/2017 – 0700 CDT Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Governor Abbott is expected to visit the FEMA Joint Field Office in Austin, Texas today.

- EPA completed sampling of all 34 Texas Superfund sites potentially impacted by the storm. Sampling at the 9 Louisiana Superfund sites will be completed by September 15, 2017. EPA will begin releasing post-hurricane Superfund site summaries based on preliminary data today. Highland Acid Pits, United Creosote, Conroe Creosoting and Brio Refining all show post-hurricane conditions to be consistent with conditions prior to the storm.

- EPA has concluded that the probable source of benzene and volatile organic compound readings in the Manchester community in Houston was the roof failure and spill from a light crude storage tank at the Valero Houston Refinery during Hurricane Harvey. EPA investigation into Valero Houston Refinery response and cleanup activities will continue. EPA will conduct an on-site inspection of the facility today and issue a 114 information request for additional information regarding the company's response.

- EPA provided by letter the Texas Water Development Board flexibility to in using the State Revolving Loan Fund to address recovery and resiliency efforts. The NEPA review requirements may be required for final project approval and streamlining opportunities are being reviewed.

- EPA, TCEQ and Army Corps of Engineers field observation teams will inspect debris staging and landfill operations within the hurricane impacted counties in Texas to ensure best practices and program requirements are being met. A federal Debris Management Taskforce has been established at the FEMA JFO in Austin. EPA solid waste expert is participating on the Taskforce.

- Debris management programs to address the predicted high volumes of hurricane-damaged structures are a high priority. Asbestos NESHAP requirements for structures is being evaluated to determine if a No Action Assurance letter from EPA is necessary.

- All three branches of Unified Command are recovering and staging orphan containers for proper disposal. The Corpus Christi Branch expects to complete activities within the next

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week. The Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch is projected to complete these activities within 20 days and the Houston Branch within 30 days.

- Drinking water and wastewater assessment teams are completing their emergency assessments of system and will depart. Restoration final systems and lifting of boil water notices will be overseen by TCEQ regional offices.

- The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) submitted a request to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to amend the Emergency Support Function (ESF-10) Mission Assignment for an additional $7.5 million. If approved, this will bring the total funding for assessment and response to $17.5 million.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

EPA continues to provide information to the public and address media inquiries related to the hurricane response effort. The response Story Map continues to be updated. Informational fact sheets for governmental entities and citizens have been posted on the response.epa.gov website.

DEBRIS RECOVERY

The state continues to assess its capacity to manage debris collections and disposal. EPA sent four field observers to Houston today, September 14, 2017 to assist TCEQ with ensuring that debris is properly segregated and categorized for disposal.

RECOVERY EFFORTS

EPA Region 6 has a representative at the Joint Field Office (JFO) providing support to Recovery Support Function activities.

EPA Region 6 responded to a September 1, 2017, letter from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) requesting flexibility in the use of State Revolving Fund (SRF) resources to address immediate recovery and future resiliency efforts. The EPA Region 6 Acting RA responded on September 12, 2017, supporting the request.

VECTOR CONTROL

Department of Defense (DOD) aerial assets continue to spray for mosquitos in affected counties. Since September 9, 2017, DOD has treated 650,863 acres. Texas Department of State Health Services' contractor Vector Disease Control International began surveillance operations on September 13, 2017, and will assist with aerial applications on September 14, 2017. Used and empty pesticide containers are being returned to the vendor for disposition.

AIR MONITORING

On September 13, 2017, TAGA continued monitoring the Manchester area, as well as areas downwind of industrial sources, Southwest Shipyard-Brady Island (Brady Landing), United States Gypsum and Targa Resources-Galena Park Terminal. No benzene levels were detected above the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels.

Today, September 14, 2017, the TAGA plans to conduct monitoring around facilities that have submitted Force Majeure claims associated with Hurricane Harvey, including the Shell Deer Park Refinery, Shell Deer Park Chemical Plant, and Vopak Deer Park.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Status	**Opened**		**Closed**	
	9/13/2017	**Number of Targets Remaining Open**	**9/13/2017**	**Cumulative**
Corpus Christi Branch	0	5	9	96
Houston Branch	20	124	73	163
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	17	42	32	53
NRC Reports	0	1	1	2
TOTALS	**37**	**172**	**115**	**314**
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**	
	9/13/17	**Number of Facilities/Spills Remaining Open**	**9/13/17**	**Cumulative**
Corpus Christi Branch	0	0	2	33
Houston Branch	1	20	5	53
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	1	8	0	12
NRC Reports	3	45	13	66
TOTALS	**5**	**73**	**20**	**164**
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.				

FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

FIELD TEAMS ON 9/13/2017				
Teams	**Alpha**	**Bravo**	**Charlie**	**TOTAL**
Hazard Evaluation	1	1	3	5
Oil Discharge Assessment	2	4	1	7
ER/Orphan Container Recovery	1	14	3	18
Oil/Vessel Recovery	2	2	0	4
Staging Areas	1	1	1	3
Air Operations	0	0	1	1
Air Monitoring	0	3	0	3
Water Infrastructure Assessment – Drinking Water	0	8	1	9
Water Infrastructure Assessment – Wastewater	0	6	1	7
TOTAL	7	39	11	57

Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date					
	CONTAINERS			Cylinders	TOTAL
	Drums [55 gals]	Small Containers [<55 gals]	Large Containers [>55 gals]		
9/13/2017	115	22	2	12	151
TOTAL TO DATE	**242**	**132**	**17**	**57**	**448**

CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

The Oil Discharge Assessment Team reviewed salvage plans for the towing vessel Sabine Pass on San Jose Island. In addition, the team oversaw the Responsible Party's contactor pumping air into the ballast and fuel tanks of the Signet Enterprise. The team monitored the containment area surrounding the vessel to ensure that no discharge was occurring. Salvage operations will resume tomorrow, September 14, 2017.

The Oil Discharge Recovery Teams coordinated and monitored Responsible Party led recovery operations and prioritized threats to the environment for removal in Rockport, Rockport Harbor, Fulton Harbor, Key Allegro, and Cove Harbor.

HOUSTON BRANCH:

A Hazard Evaluation Team investigated the report from PCI Nitrogen (formerly Agrifos), of a gypsum stack retaining wall collapse, in Pasadena, on September 13, 2017. The team tested the pH of the material at the discharge point and determined there was no CERCLA reportable release.

The Oil Discharge Assessment Teams conducted facility site visits to verify ongoing cleanup efforts. Discharge Recovery Teams conducted assessment visits to confirm vessel salvage operations.

The Emergency Response and Orphan Container Recovery Teams recovered containers in portions of Liberty, Harris, and Wharton counties.

PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

The Hazard Evaluation Team conducted assessments and identified targets in Rainbow Marina, Blue Bird Boat Ramp, Cypress Swamp, and the area south from Sea Rim State Park to McFaddin Beach. Multiple targets may not be recoverable due to terrain, obstructions, water depth, or location on federal property.

The Oil Discharge Assessment Team investigated and identified targets in the Lumberton area.

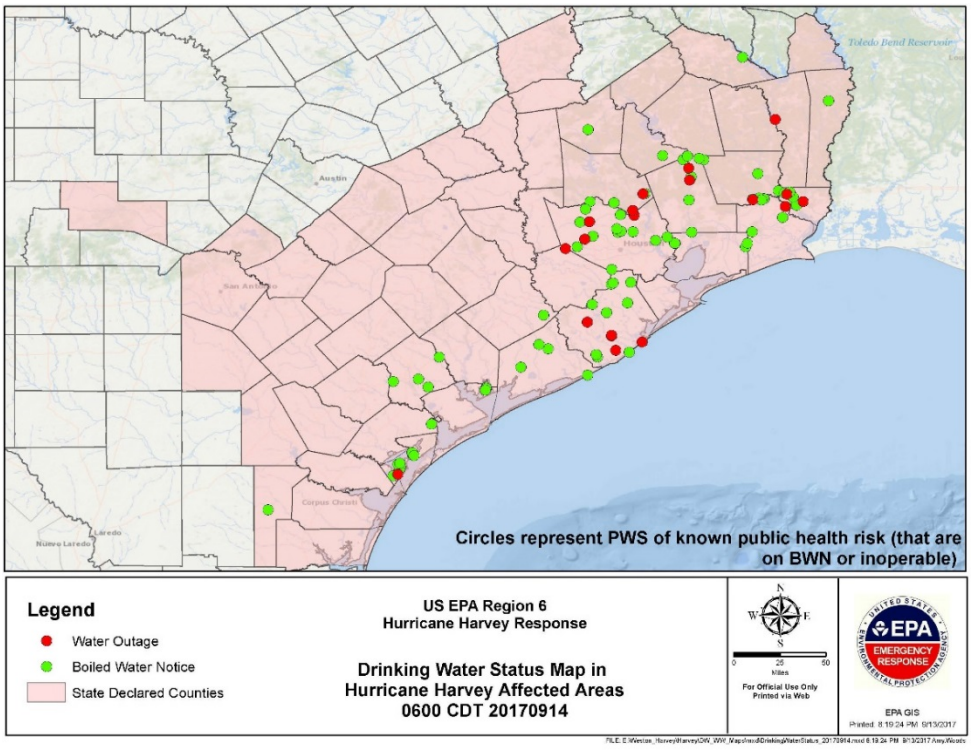
The Oil Container Recovery Teams retrieved accessible targets from North Harbor Loop in Lower Sabine River, in the Cities of Vidor and Orange, and at the Beaumont Yacht Club.

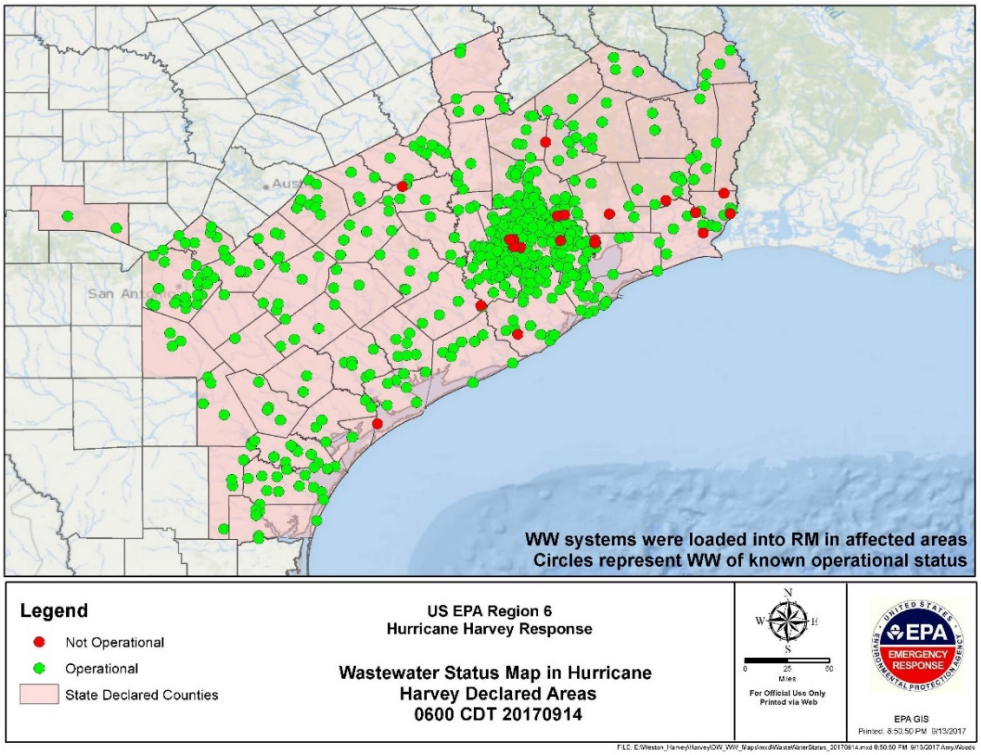
The Air Operations Group flew over Vidor, Texas and identified 7 new targets for recovery.

DRINKING WATER / WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS

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

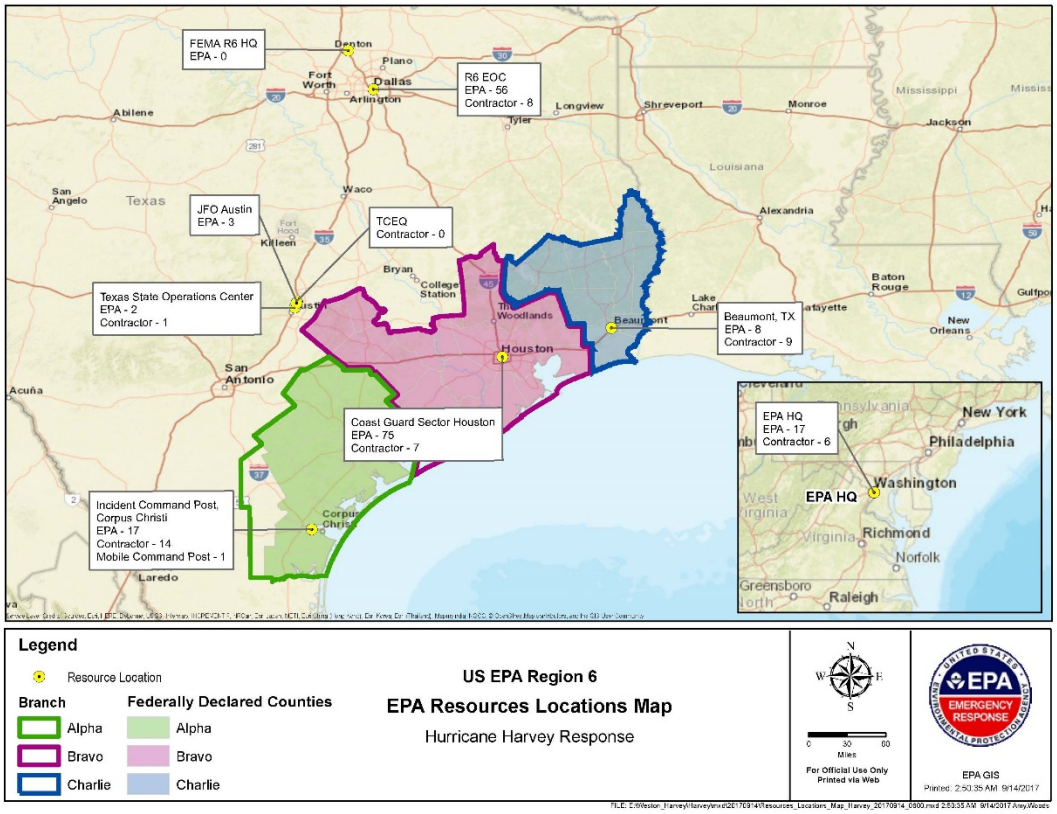
Drinking Water and Wastewater Assessments (September 13, 2017)		
Assessment Types	**Daily Assessments**	**Total Assessments**
On-Site DW Assessments	50	567
On-Site WW Assessments	48	385
Phone DW Assessments	143	6550
Phone WW Assessments	76	4606





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	56	0	3	2	0	75	17	8	17	178
START	8			1	0	7	14	9		39
ERRS						24	4	11		39
Other Contractors	1								6	7
TOTAL	65	0	3	3	0	106	35	28	23	263



Legend

Resource Location

Branch	Federally Declared Counties
Alpha	Alpha
Bravo	Bravo
Charlie	Charlie

US EPA Region 6

EPA Resources Locations Map

Hurricane Harvey Response

N W E S

0 30 60 Miles

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FUNDING

SitRep
September 13, 2017, UPDATED 1300 hours

Funding Sources	Funding Ceiling	Funding Ceiling Less Indirect	Obligated to Date	Estimated Spent to Date	Unobligated Dollars Remaining	Estimated Unspent Dollars Remaining	Daily Burn Rate	Days Remaining
Non Mission Assignment	N/A			$64,200.00	$0.00	$0.00		
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-01	$275,000.00	$242,741.00	$39,056.00	$39,056.00	$203,685.00	$203,685.00	$3,664.00	55.59
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-03	$10,092,000.00	$8,908,113.00	$7,084,815.81	$5,291,807.09	$1,823,297.19	$3,616,305.91	$324,857.33	see below
Totals:	$10,367,000.00	$9,150,854.00	$7,123,871.81	$5,395,063.09	$2,026,982.19	$3,755,790.91		
Days remaining based on authorized direct ceiling minus total payroll, travel, and contracts EXPENDED								**11.13**
Days Remaining based on authorized ceiling minus total payroll, travel, and contract OBLIGATIONS								**6.24**

** The indirect cost pool consists of all costs classified as indirect for all appropriations that fund administrative, management and support functions.

NOTE: This report includes estimated cumulative costs of the HQ EOC charging under MA#03 (09/13/17)

REFINERIES / FUEL WAIVERS

- EPA extended the multi-state fuel waiver to October 1, 2017.
- EPA has granted all open fuel waivers requested to date.
- On September 13, 2017, EPA issued a waiver of certain requirements of the Clean Air Act:
    - The Texas Low Emission Diesel (TxLED) requirements was waived in all TxLED Counties to minimize or prevent problems with the supply of TxLED. The EPA will allow regulated parties to use federally compliant 15 part per million Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) in a 110-county area of Texas. This waiver is effective immediately and will continue through October 1, 2017.
    - EPA is waiving the 7.8 psi Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) standard that applies in Eastern Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) RVP Counties until the end of the summer "high ozone" season on October 1, 2017. This waiver is effective immediately and will continue through October 1, 2017.
    - EPA is waiving the federal Reformulated Gasoline (RFG) requirements in Texas. Under this waiver, EPA will allow regulated parties to produce, sell or distribute conventional winter gasoline in any RFG covered area within Texas. This will also prohibit any person from combining any RFG BOB with any other gasoline, blendstock, or oxygenate, unless certain conditions are met.
- 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 covers the entire state of Texas

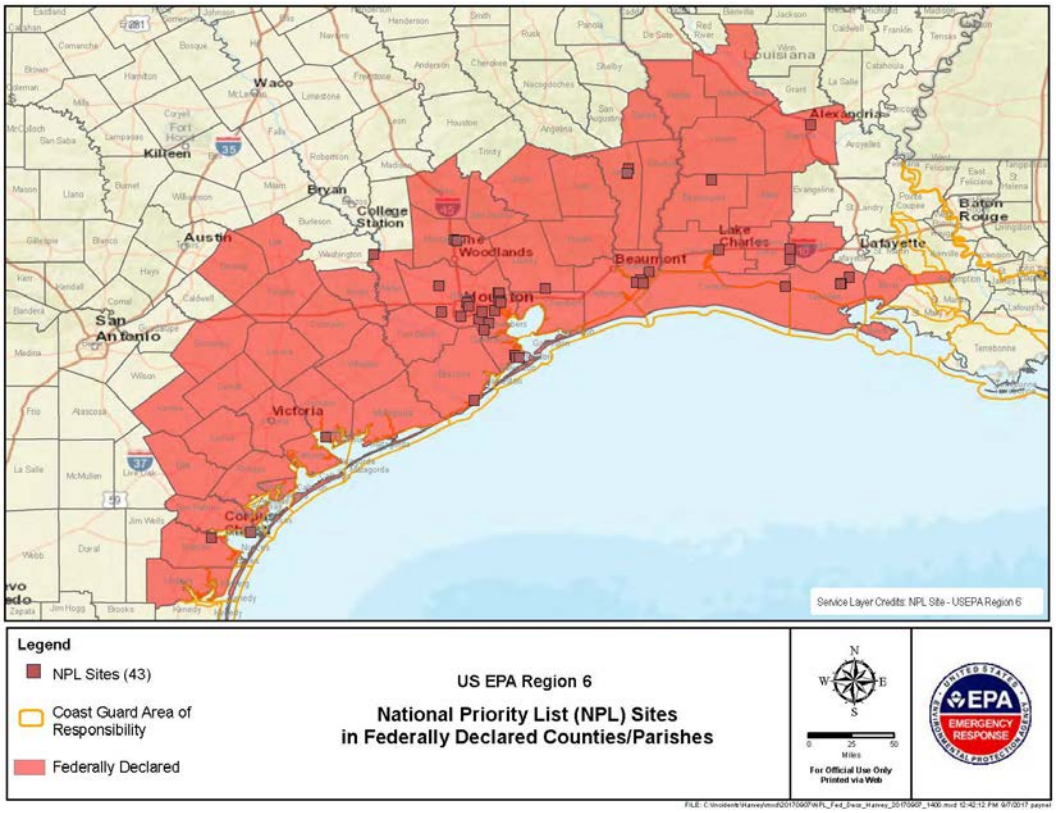
FEDERAL SUPERFUND NPL SITES - (These activities are being done concurrently but outside of the current Mission Assignment)

- EPA either directed potentially responsible parties (PRPs), or independently, began 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 PRPs, have completed sampling at 39 sites. The sampling is part of a longer term assessment that will be used to transition sites back to normal cleanup operations. As of September 13, 2017, teams completed all sampling in Texas, with the exception of one site that will be sampled September 14, 2017. 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 by September 18, 2017.

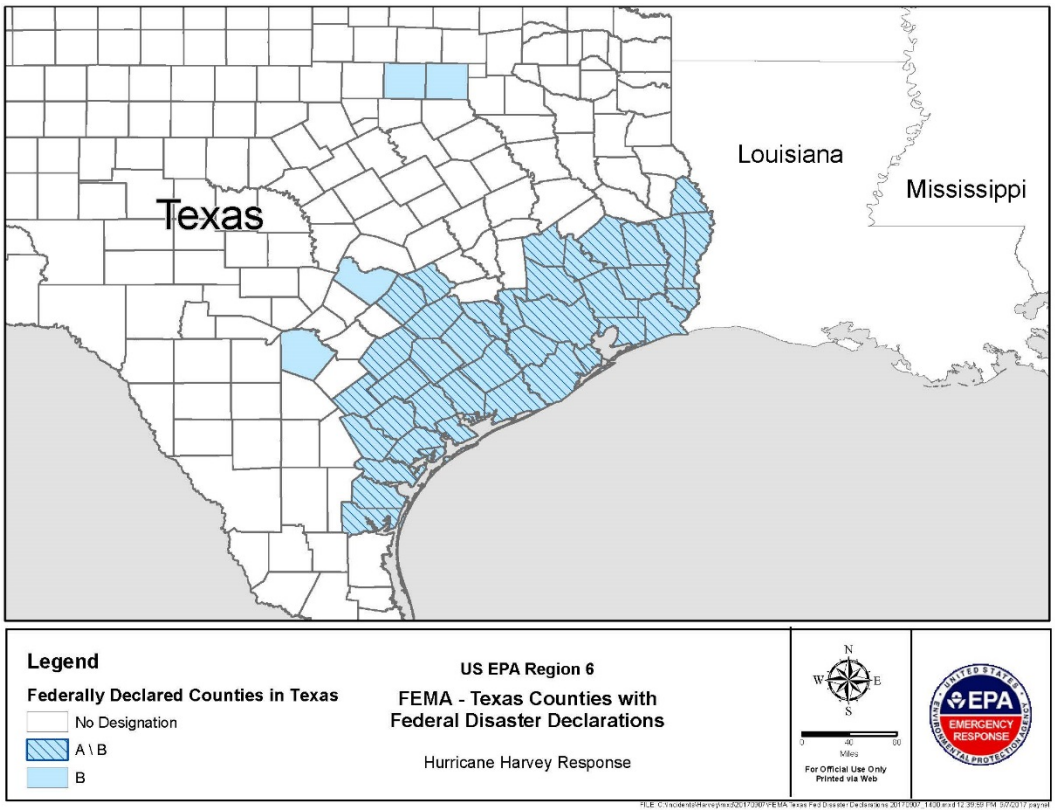
- All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the hurricane affected area have been assessed. Of these, 41 sites have been cleared and two sites (San Jacinto Waste Pits and U.S. Oil Recovery) are undergoing additional follow-up as follows:

    - U.S. Oil Recovery Update: The PRP continues to conduct pump down operations to maintain freeboard. Since the storm, 61 truckloads of storm water (approximately 305,000 gallons) have been removed from the site. At the request of EPA, the PRP performed additional site inspections on September 13, 2017 and nothing unusual was found.

    - San Jacinto Waste Pits Update: Cap repairs continue on the remaining berm sections and cap probing continues. Temporary fencing is also being installed for site security.



FEMA – TEXAS COUNTIES WITH DISASTER DECLARATIONS



Houston Branch – Water Assessment Team Houston

Houston Orphan Container Recovery