



Deployment Report



14 SDF-Trained Canine Disaster Search Teams Deployed to Gulf Coast Ahead of Hurricane Harvey

AUGUST 27, 2017 - 11AM LOCAL TIME

As Tropical Storm Harvey hit the Gulf Coast yesterday, additional Canine Disaster Search Teams were deployed with Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces from across the country, ***including 4 more SDF-trained* Search Teams, bringing the total number of SDF teams on the way and on the ground in Texas to 14:***

California Task Force 1 (Los Angeles Fire)

- Eric Ingstad & Java

California Task Force 4 (Oakland)

- Mike Stornetta & Rocket

California Task Force 8 (San Diego)

- Brent Brainard & Decker
- Linda D'Orsi & Haley

As the teams arrive in Texas and assess where their assistance is needed, we will share updates as quickly as possible. First and foremost, we want to be sure the teams are focused on the mission - helping the people of Texas stay safe in the aftermath of this fierce storm.

We wish the best of luck to the rescuers en route and on the ground as well as keep the citizens of Texas in our thoughts as they deal with this disaster.

AUGUST 25, 2017 - 3 PM LOCAL TIME

The Tropical Storm expected to hit the Gulf Coast later today has been building tremendous strength and has escalated to a hurricane warning for millions of people along a 367 mile stretch of coast along the Gulf of Mexico. Named Hurricane Harvey, the storm is expected to affect Texas and Louisiana most, and to be the strongest storm in their region since 2005.

That year was a devastating hurricane season for the southeast and 27 SDF teams responded to 4 major hurricanes between August and October 2005. Tuesday, August 29th is in fact the 12 year anniversary of when Hurricane Katrina made landfall in New Orleans.

As of right now, **10 SDF Search Teams have been *activated* along with their teammates from Texas Task Force 2 (TX-TF2), Nebraska Task Force 1 (NE-TF1), Utah Task Force 1 (UT-TF1) and California Task Force 5 (CA-TF5)** and have either already arrived and are awaiting assignments or are en route to San Antonio right now, which will be their initial base of operations. From there, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will wait to assess the damage Hurricane Harvey causes to the region and where it is determined the Task Forces can be of the most use to citizens affected by the severe weather.

The following SDF-trained Canine Disaster Search Teams are responding:

California Task Force 5 (Orange County)

- Davis Doty & Jester
- Doug Van Iwaarden & Sadie

Nebraska Task Force 1 (Lincoln)

- Steve MacDonald & Lilly
- Andrew Pitcher & Chief
- Damon Wirth & George

Texas Task Force 2 (Dallas)

- Keri Grant & Tucker
- Robert Grant & Rocky
- Patti Krafft & Billy
- Andi Sutcliffe & Skye

Utah Task Force 1 (Salt Lake City)

- Roxanne Bauman & Cole

Additional U.S. Task Forces are standing by to assist should they be needed. Once Harvey makes landfall we will know more about where exactly they are deploying from the base of operations in San Antonio but the focus now is on preparing for the mission.

Thank you for all of your support to ensure that when disaster strikes, Search Teams are there to help those most in need. We hope you take pride in the fact that you are a part of the important mission these Task Forces have ahead of them!