

## **FEMA Encourages Residents to Follow Directions from State, Local, and Tribal Officials and Prepare for Hurricane Harvey**

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**WASHINGTON – As Hurricane Harvey heads toward Texas and Louisiana, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) remains in close coordination with state, local and tribal officials, and is encouraging residents and visitors in the storm’s path to follow directions from those officials.**

**FEMA, through its national headquarters in Washington, D.C., regional office in Denton, Texas, and liaisons at the National Hurricane Center in Florida, is monitoring the track of the storm, and anticipated changes to its severity.**

**According to the National Hurricane Center, Hurricane Harvey brings the potential for prolonged heavy rains, flooding and storm surge along the Gulf Coast. Additional strengthening is forecast, and the National Hurricane Center has issued watches and warnings for parts of Texas.**

**“FEMA stands ready to support state, local and tribal officials as they prepare for Hurricane Harvey,” said Administrator Brock Long. “I encourage residents who will be affected to follow directions from their local officials. Know your threats, heed the warnings, and if you’re in the path of the storm, ensure your family is prepared for possible prolonged disruptions to normal services.”**

**FEMA established an Incident Support Base at Randolph Auxiliary Airfield near Seguin, Texas, to pre-position supplies including water, meals, blankets and other resources closer to the potentially affected areas, should they be needed and requested by the state. State, local, and tribal officials would then be responsible for distributing any supplies to their communities.**

**Additionally, FEMA Regional Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMAT) are in place at Emergency Operations Centers in Austin, Texas, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to support any requests for federal assistance.**