

Update: State Continues Response to Historic Flood Event

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 14, 2016 MEDIA CONTACT: Mike Steele
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**The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) continues to coordinate the state's response to the current historic flood event. New reports supplied by parishes indicate 6,143 structures have received flood damage across the state. The total is expected to climb as more parishes compile data. New problems are still being reported in some regions as river levels continue to climb.
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**The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) has indicated portions of Interstate 10 and Interstate 59 may be closed in south Louisiana and south Mississippi due to rising water. Emergency officials say other flood related problems could develop on Interstate 10 near the Texas border. Dozens of other roadways remain closed because of standing water. State agencies manning the State Emergency Operations Center continue round the clock work to meet requests for resources from parishes impacted by the floods.
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**The National Weather Service forecast for Louisiana includes a chance for more rain and thunderstorms in some areas later this week. Thousands of rescues have been reported since Wednesday, including 4,255 by the Louisiana National Guard and 700 by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.
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**Governor John Bel Edwards announced Sunday that the federal government declared a major disaster for the State of Louisiana. The initial federal declaration is for Bossier, Claiborne, Grant, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, and Webster Parishes. Additional parish declarations will likely be made as further damage assessments are conducted.
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**Federal Declarations and Types of Assistance available:
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• INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE - (Assistance to individuals and households): The