



FEMA

JUN - 7 2006

Ms. Melanie Sloan
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington
11 DuPont Circle, NW
2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20036

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request
FOIA Case Number: 06-416

Dear Ms. Sloan:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated September 7, 2005, to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Disclosure Officer, requesting a multitude of records related to Hurricane Katrina. In responding to your request, the Departmental Disclosure Officer located seven pages that were responsive to Item 11 on the third page of your request. Because these pages originated from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), DHS' Disclosure Officer forwarded them to us for direct response to you.

Your request is granted in part at no cost to you. Enclosed are the releasable portions of the seven pages referred to us for a release determination.

We are withholding the portion that lists FEMA's Readiness Alert Status under FOIA Exemption 2 ("High 2"), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(2). This is predominantly internal information, the disclosure of which would risk circumvention of agency regulations or impede an agency's law enforcement capabilities, including readiness status. We are releasing a total of 7 pages; 5 of which are released in their entirety and two that are released in part.

We are withholding the names of non-DHS employees under FOIA Exemption 6 because public disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). The interest of the general public in reviewing these portions of government documents does not outweigh the individual's rights to privacy.

I am the official responsible for this determination. You may appeal this determination within 60 days from the date of this letter. Your appeal should include copies of your original request and this response, as well as a discussion of the reasons supporting your appeal. The envelope should be plainly marked to indicate that it contains a Freedom of Information Act appeal. If you decide to appeal, please send your appeal to:

Ms. Melanie Sloan
Page 2

Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act Appeals
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane, SW, Building 410
Washington, DC 20528

For your information, your FOIA request, including your identity and the information made available, is releasable to the public under subsequent FOIA requests. In responding to these requests, FEMA does not release personal privacy information, such as home address, telephone number, or social security number, all of which are protected from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 6.

Thank you for your interest in FEMA's programs and policies.

Sincerely,

D. Mags Nepler, III

for Michael W. Lowder
Deputy Director
Response Division

Enclosures

From: Jones, Melvin
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2005 2:07 AM
To: [REDACTED]; HSOC.ASWO; HSOC.SWO; IMD; [REDACTED]; NSC-WHSR; Clair Blong; Dick Gray; Evelts, Mark; HSOC.Admin; HSOC.COMMON; HSOC.DOD; HSOC.FEMA; HSOC.GMO; HSOC.HHS; HSOC.IA-INTEL; HSOC.IPNICC; HSOC.IP-PSD; HSOC.JRIES; HSOC.NOAA; HSOC.PublicAffairs; HSOC.SIA-INTEL; HSOC.State&Local; HSOC.TRACKER; HSOC.USCG; HSOC.USGS; HSOC.VA; Kulisch, Gail; Manning, Laura; Murray, John; Neglia, Samuel; NICC; Secretary Briefing Staff; Stuckey, William; Weber, Scott
Subject: FW: Homeland Security Daily Operations Report for September 2, 2005

From: FEMA-NRCC [mailto:Fema-NRCC@dhs.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2005 1:56 AM
Subject: Homeland Security Daily Operations Report for September 2, 2005

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Homeland Security Daily Operations Report
As of 2:00 a.m., September 2, 2005

Homeland Security Threat Level: YELLOW (Elevated)

Katrina Response Overview

Coordinated major airlift of evacuees to begin 8:00 a.m. CDT, September 2, 2005. Evacuees will depart New Orleans Superdome by bus, and be flown at a rate of 4-5 planes per hour from New Orleans Airport to Lackland Air Force Base, TX for reception and housing at Kelly AFB.

- Simultaneous bus evacuation continues: 10,000 evacuees to be housed at Houston Astrodome (10,000 evacuees capacity per Fire Marshall); and 10,000 evacuees to be housed at Dallas, TX, Reunion Center.
- As of 9 p.m. EDT, September 1, 2005, 10,000 people have been evacuated from the Superdome (1,500 special needs, 8,500 general population)
- American Red Cross/FEMA Family Assistance Planning completed. The 1-800 call-in number for family members to call to locate relatives will be functional Friday, September 2, 2005. The ARC website (www.familylinks.icrc.org) was activated September 1, 2005.
- Tulane Medical Center evacuated; hospital evacuations still ongoing at Memorial (45 patients), Methodist (400 people) and Kindred (number unknown)
- 194 patients moved by MedEvac from New Orleans International Airport for evaluation and transport to Houston, TX
- 43 National Disaster Medical System Teams with 1,196 personnel deployed
- National Guard has a total of 27,000 troops arriving over the next 5 days
- More than 70 Federal Protective Services Officers and 100 Border Protection Officers assisting operations in Louisiana (14 in travel status)
- 28 Urban Search and Rescue Teams staged in Louisiana and Mississippi - operations have ceased in New Orleans until National Guard can assist teams with security
- Planning to move 4 million MREs daily for the next three days
- 76,000 people being sheltered
- 13 assessment teams for hazardous materials have been deployed

- Coast Guard reports more than 3,000 rescues to date
- Coordinating with Amtrak on 1,500-passenger train for evacuation
- Developed and now implementing a National Communications Response Plan in partnership with industry
- Coordinating a strategic National Priority Plan for provision of fuel to responders
- Coordinating with Union Pacific for use of 60-75 tank cars for fuel movement

Public Safety in New Orleans

- Critical needs:
 - High-water vehicles
 - Additional portable radios because no power to charge current ones
- Rescue operations have never been suspended except for NDMS and FEMA (ERT-A) employees in the Superdome area. They will return once get go ahead from LTG Honore that area is secure.
- Currently have lost connectivity and visibility of operations at Superdome so they cannot determine if security issues have been resolved.
- Commodity distribution continued - deliveries made to Superdome and throughout state.
- 2,000 law enforcement officials should arrive today.
- Search and rescue continues, although team members have expressed concern about safety.
- Working with ESF #13 to get appropriate Federal armed agents to support.
- JOC established at LA State Police headquarters
- Temporary jail facility being established, need plastic handcuffs and shackles.
- FBI Special Agent in Charge providing air support and special weapons teams.

Public Safety in Mississippi

- Isolated incidents, but nothing widespread.
- Important to have a strong showing of National Guard forces to deter unrest. 10,000 National Guard troops are being assigned to the area; 4,000-5,000 are there now.

Housing

- FEMA is leading housing plan
 - Looking to secure cruise ships for housing support; have identified 3 ships with 6,500. Need approval to move them close to New Orleans.
 - 1600 dorm rooms identified
 - 400 hotel room identified
 - 45,000 mobile homes and trailers identified - need to find site to place them

Logistics

- Searching alternate sources for meals
- 2 million MREs are going into the affected area

MS EOC

- Critical issues:
 - No communications on the coast, push-to-talk with counties will be available later today (have asked ESF #2 for help)
 - Health issues on the coast - looking at declaring a public health emergency
 - Attempting to get trucks to Chevron to refuel
 - Issue of releasing fuel to local governments
 - Shortages of MREs and getting food to shelters
 - Shortages of housing for responders (need money from ARC or FEMA to continue hotel stays)
 - Security
- Search and rescue - 11 teams there now, 19 will eventually be there.
- NGOs and faith-based organizations are arriving, but still having problems providing meals.
- 8 refrigerator trucks have arrived and have requested additional body bags from FL.

- Expect to have 100,000 people in shelters across the state.
- Electricity is improving

LA EOC

- Critical issues
 - Steady flow of commodities
 - Vouchers from ARC for workers
 - Movement of fuel
- 232,000 without power
- 15 shelters are open and housing 1670 people
- 20 distribution sites in 6 counties (1.9 million pounds of ice distributed; 460,000 MREs distributed)
- 7 fueling stations for first responders
- 8 mobile kitchens are in place and 7 more to arrive

LA EOC

- Critical needs
 - Need to create additional shelters outside of the region because Astrodome will not house all of them
- Additional 7,500 National Guard coming into State, working on how to best integrate them into the response.

TX EOC

- Critical needs:
 - Buses, drivers, and security
 - Locations to shelter additional folks from LA (have spoke to mayor of San Antonio and worked out plan)
 - Helpful to know number of people to expect at Astrodome and arrival times
- 81 shelters available for 44,258 people; 44 are open and housing 9,346 people
- ,000 have arrived at Astrodome
- Have deployed all TX search and rescue assets to LA
- Have 10 helos available plus 2 fixed wing air ambulances; 60 ambulances; 1 blimp; EMS personnel, nurses, and doctors
- 1,232 TX National Guard are in LA (FEMA HQ)

National Forecast

- **Northeast:** After a moisture-starved secondary cold front and vigorous upper-level system pop a few showers from the Adirondacks to interior Maine today and tomorrow, a sprawling area of high pressure will take total control of the weather across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. This will mean plenty of sunshine and no rain region-wide from Sunday and Labor Day right through midweek. High temperatures from the 70s in northern Maine to the 90s in Virginia will be replaced with highs from the 60s across Upstate New York and northern New England to the 80s in Virginia by Sunday.
- **South:** The southern Plains and lower Mississippi Valley will remain hot with highs in the 90s right through the Labor Day weekend while the Southeast will see highs in the 90s gradually give way to the more pleasant 80s by Labor Day. High pressure will dominate much of the region, keeping most areas rain free. A few isolated thunderstorms could pop west of the Mississippi, but otherwise thunderstorms will be confined to the immediate Gulf Coast and the Florida Peninsula. Thunderstorms could be particularly torrential in Florida, the South's potentially wettest spot this holiday weekend.
- **Midwest:** Low pressure north of the Great Lakes could pop a few showers across northern Michigan before high pressure over the Plains begins a slow slide eastward for the Labor Day weekend, keeping most of the Midwest dry. The Plains will heat up this weekend with high temperatures approaching 100 degrees (near record levels) in parts of South Dakota tomorrow. A few isolated clusters of thunderstorms could roam west of the Mississippi from time to time although most places in the Plains will be rain free. By Labor Day, a cold front will swing eastward across the Dakotas, possibly providing a better focus for scattered strong thunderstorms.

- **West:** A new Pacific cold front will move across the Northwest this weekend, bringing a few showers to western Washington and a few thunderstorms to the northern Rockies. The 90s in eastern Montana will be replaced with 70s by Labor Day. Meanwhile, moisture will be on the increase across the Southwest. The risk for isolated-to-scattered, mainly p.m. thunderstorms over southern Colorado and New Mexico will gradually extend westward across Utah, Arizona, easternmost Nevada and southeast California over the next few days. Temperatures in the Southwest will be 5 degrees either side of average. (*NWS, Media Sources*)

Tropical Depression Fourteen Remains Over The Open Tropical Atlantic

- At 5 pm ast...2100z...the center of tropical depression fourteen was located near latitude 19.6 north longitude 46.6 west or about 1085 miles (1740 km) east of the Northern Leeward Islands.
- The depression is moving toward the west-northwest near 12 mph (19 km/hr) and this motion is expected to continue for the next 24 Hours.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 35 mph (55 km/hr) with higher gusts. Little change in strength is forecast during the next 24 hours.
- Estimated minimum central pressure is 1008 mb (29.77 inches).
- The depression has changed little in organization during the afternoon with an exposed low-level circulation southeast of the main area of deep convection. The upper-level low causing the southeasterly shear over the system is expected to move westward over the next day or two which should place the depression under a slightly more favorable environment with less shear.
- Model guidance continues to show a large split in forecast intensities. With all of the global models except the UKMET model dissipating the system in 48-72 hours while the ships intensity guidance bringing the system to near hurricane strength in about 72 hours. The forecast intensity will be very similar to the previous package which keeps the system below tropical storm strength for 12 hours followed by slow strengthening. Needless to say, this is a very low-confidence forecast.
- The initial motion is 300/10 -- slower and slightly to the right of the previous motion. The depression is moving around the southwestern periphery of a deep-layered ridge over the eastern Atlantic. The system is expected to make a gradual turn to the northwest over the next few days as the high builds to the east and an upper low remains near 65w between Bermuda and Puerto Rico.
- Due in large part to the change in the initial motion, the track is shifted slightly east of the previous forecast and remains in close agreement with the dynamical model suite through 48 hours. Beyond this time the forecast track follows a general motion to the northwest and north-northwest between the high to the east and the upper low to the west. (*National Hurricane Center*)

Wildfire Update

- *National Preparedness Level 4*
- **CURRENT SITUATION:**
- Initial attack activity was light nationally with 92 fires reported. Two new large fires were reported, one each in the Rocky Mountain and Northern Rockies Areas. Four large fires were contained, one each in the Northern Rockies, Rocky Mountain, Southern and Western Great Basin Areas. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in California, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. A Presidential Disaster Declaration was issued on 8/27 for Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana. An Area Command Team (Williams-Rhodes) is deployed to the Regional Response Coordination Center in Atlanta, GA. for Hurricane Katrina Support. Numerous resources are being mobilized as part of the relief effort. In recognition of current and predicted support levels to Hurricane Katrina, the National Preparedness Level has been elevated from PL-3 to PL-4.
- **OUTLOOK:** Weather Discussion: Warming and drying conditions will move over much of the West as a high pressure ridge builds aloft. Afternoon wet thunderstorms are possible over the higher elevations of Colorado and New Mexico.

- **Colorado**
 - **NEW Blowout** (Western Slope Center, Grand Junction, Bureau of Land Management): 426 acres at 10 percent contained. The fire is located five miles south of Palisade. Residences, structures, cultural resources, and a watershed are threatened. Steep terrain and limited access are hampering containment efforts. Extreme fire behavior was reported.
- **Idaho**
 - **Frank Church** (Payette National Forest): 26,948 acres. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident, comprised of the Bear Creek, Root Creek, West Fork/Joe, Missouri Ridge and several other fires is 50 miles northeast of McCall. The fire is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. Commercial property, residences and historical structures are threatened; structure protection is in place. Smoldering and creeping was observed.
- **Montana**
 - **Signal Rock** (Beaverhead/Deerlodge National Forest): 7,650 acres at 10 percent contained. The fire is 17 miles southwest of Philipsburg and is burning on both the Bitterroot and Beaverhead/Deerlodge National Forests. Structures remain threatened and a protection plan is being developed. Torching and spotting was reported.
 - **Seepay #2** (Flathead Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs): 6,000 acres at 40 percent contained. The fire is two miles southwest of Perma. A microwave communications site, structures, and cultural sites are threatened. Road closures are in effect. Torching with short crown runs and spotting were observed.
 - **Selway-Salmon Complex** (Bitterroot National Forest): 14,839 acres. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) complex, comprised of the El Capitan, Wapiti, Beaverjack, Reynolds Lake and numerous other fires, is 26 miles southwest of Hamilton. This complex, burning on both the Salmon-Challis and Bitterroot National Forests, is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. A campground, historic ranger station, and a lookout are threatened. Structure protection remains in place. Magruder Corridor Road will reopen today. Creeping and some active surface fire was reported.
 - **Hazard Lake** (Lewis and Clark National Forest): 750 acres. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) fire is 33 miles near Choteau. This fire is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. Private land and a cabin are potentially threatened. Structure protection is in place. Creeping and smoldering was reported. This will be the last report unless significant activity occurs.
- **Oregon**
 - **Granite Complex** (Wallowa-Whitman National Forest): 32,556 acres. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident is 30 miles east of Enterprise. This complex is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. Structure protection is currently being reassessed. Fire activity increased in heavier fuels. *(National Interagency Fire Center, National Interagency Information Center)*

FEMA Regional Activity

- Typhoon Nabi passed through the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands August 30-31, 2005. Reporting indicates the eye of the storm passed approximately 35 miles north of Saipan. Reporting of damage from the CNMI Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been received [via Pacific Area Office (PAO)]. Preliminary reporting from the CNMI EOC includes: Saipan - homes destroyed and homes with both major minor damage; Tinian also reported homes with damage (unspecified); Saipan - overflow of sewage along roads and "major debris" reported throughout island with some road washouts (up to 3 feet deep). No damage information was received from Rota by the time of CNMI EOC reporting. Rota has 100% of its power. Tinian has 90% of its power restored and Saipan has 40% power restoration. Full power is predicted to resume in Tinian and Saipan within 3-4 days. Two (2) debris collection sites have been identified and are in use by public works for debris removal in Saipan.
- Saipan EOC was activated. Shelters were opened in anticipation of the typhoon with 675 evacuees occupying the shelters. Preliminary damage assessment by CNMI EMO was conducted. Debris removal has been initiated. Electrical power restoration efforts are underway.
- A FEMA representative from the PAO was liaison to CNMI EOC during landfall of the typhoon. Request for joint CNMI/FEMA IA/PA PDAs was requested by CNMI. A five member PDA Team (IA/PA) is leaving for CNMI from

PAO, Hawaii today. PAO,

- An earthquake occurred today at 2127 EDT today, September 01, 2005. The magnitude of 4.8 event has been located in Southern California, 1 mile ESE from Obsidian Butte, CA and 7 miles WNW from Calipatria, CA at a depth of 3.7 miles. No report of damage or injuries.
- There is no state action anticipated and no request for Federal assistance has been received. *(FEMA Region IX)*

Other Tropical Cyclone Activity

- In the Eastern/Central Pacific, no storms threaten land or any U.S. interests.
- In the Western Pacific, no storms threaten any U.S. interests. *(National Hurricane Center, Joint Typhoon Warning Center)*

Earthquake Activity

- No additional earthquake activity occurred during the past 24 hours. *(USGS National Earthquake Information Center)*

Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs)

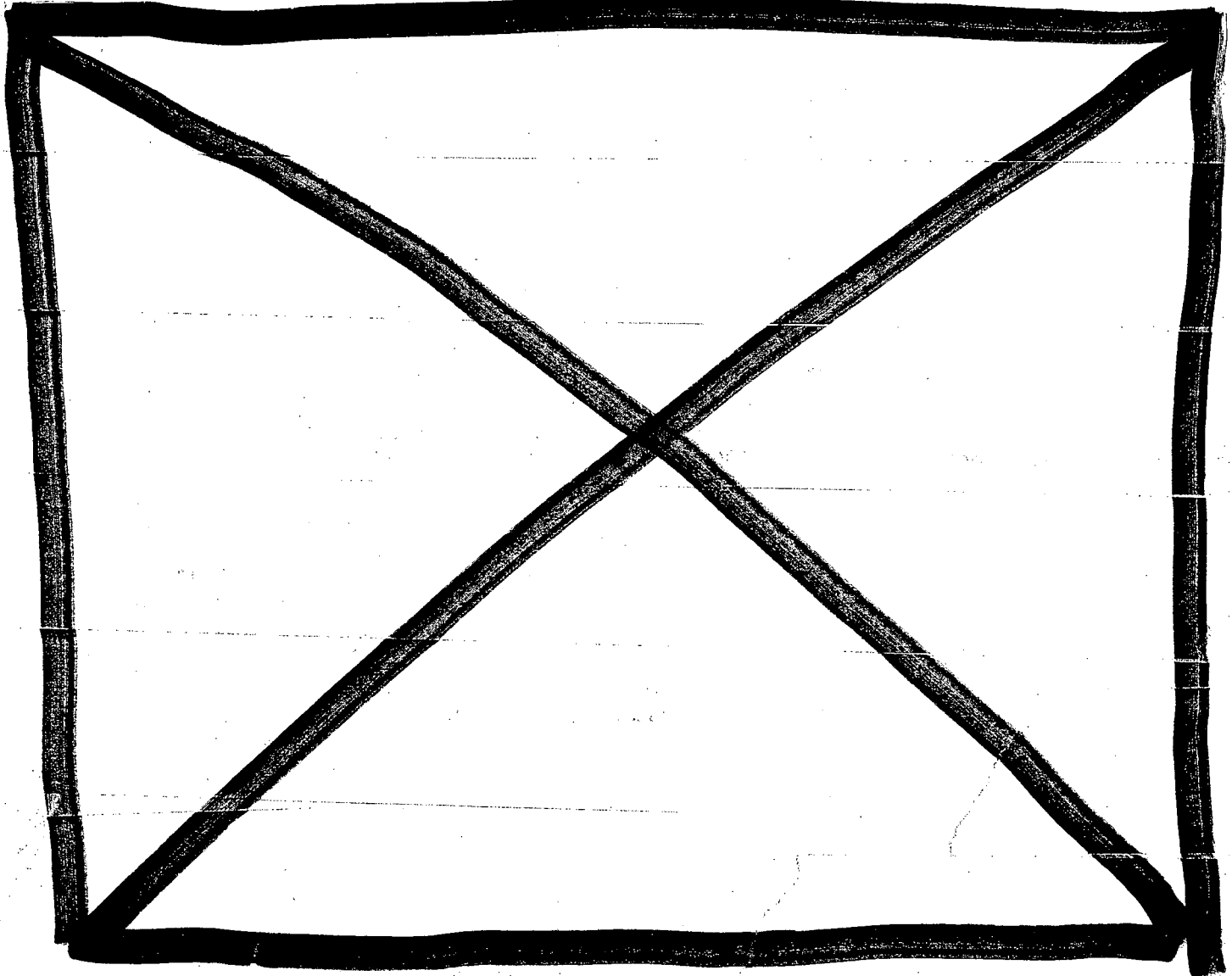
- Other than the PDAs in Saipan, no additional change during the past 24 hours. *(FEMA HQ)*

Disaster Declaration Activity

- No new information during the past 24 hours. *(FEMA HQ)*

b2

FEMA Readiness Alert Status:



The FEMA Homeland Security Daily Operations Report is prepared by the FEMA National Response Coordination Center (NRCC). Questions can be addressed to NRCC watch officers via phone at 202-646-2828/4541 (staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week), via fax at 202-646-4541, or via e-mail at FEMA-NRCC@dhs.gov.