



## Hurricane IKE: Emergency Support Function #10



Federal, State and Local entities were committed from the outset to conduct the oil and hazardous materials response mission in a unified and coordinated manner even though each agency does not have identical statutory requirements.

EPA and CG shared plans and coordinated capabilities pre-landfall:

- Sector H-G designated GST CO as CGIC for ESF10/Environmental Response
- EPA & CG pre-staged personnel in the Texas Task Force in San Antonio
- GST pre-staged personnel in Sector's COOP location in Katy, TX
- GST deployed 10-man hazmat team and 5 additional responders immediately after landfall



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Prior to, during, and after hurricane impact all four primary agencies worked using their resources to begin assessing and responding to potential and actual oil and hazmat incidents:

- EPA assessed more than 900 chemical facilities using targeted contracted over flights
- **USCG, TGLO, & TCEQ worked out of USCG command posts to assess and respond to >250 oil & hazmat incidents via ground & water patrols**
- EPA & TCEQ assessed more than 1,000 drinking water facilities & conducted air monitoring in key areas
- EPA, USCG, TGLO, TCEQ, and all other agencies worked to identify more than 3,000 hazmat targets for removal.



# Emergency Support Function #10 Geographical Divisions: A, B, C



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# Coast Guard Sector Houston - Galveston's Hurricane IKE Response

## Search and Rescue

- Several hundred persons rescued pre-storm; SAR resumed post-landfall

## Waterways Management

- 58% of Aids to Navigation displaced or destroyed
- Reopening the ship channel

## Regulated Facilities

- Post-landfall assessment and pre-start up inspection

## Vessel Assessment

- Verifying location of all red flag vessels
- Conducting vessel assessments for salvage disposition

## Environmental Response

- Responded to more than 250 reports of pollution





## Coast Guard Sector Houston - Galveston's Hurricane IKE Response

### Environmental Response - more than 250 reports of pollution

- Several major oil spills but all had proactive Responsible Parties
- Marinas had significant impact from tanks & sunken vessels
- Hydrogen Cyanide and another 40+ inter-modal containers in Greens Bayou; grounded sulfuric acid barge adjacent to the container facilities
- Hundreds of vessels to assess for integrity and pollution threat
- Goat Island oil production facilities: St. Marys, Tek Oil

Operated from the Katy ICP from 13-17 September & Clearlake ICP from 17-21 September for all spills in Houston-Galveston Area; we sent additional people to Port Arthur to assist and they reported their numbers in the totals.

On 21 September the CG Environmental Branch detached to the Pasadena ICP to establish the ESF10 ICP



# Coast Guard Sector Houston - Galveston's Hurricane IKE Response

Environmental Response - more than 250 reports of pollution

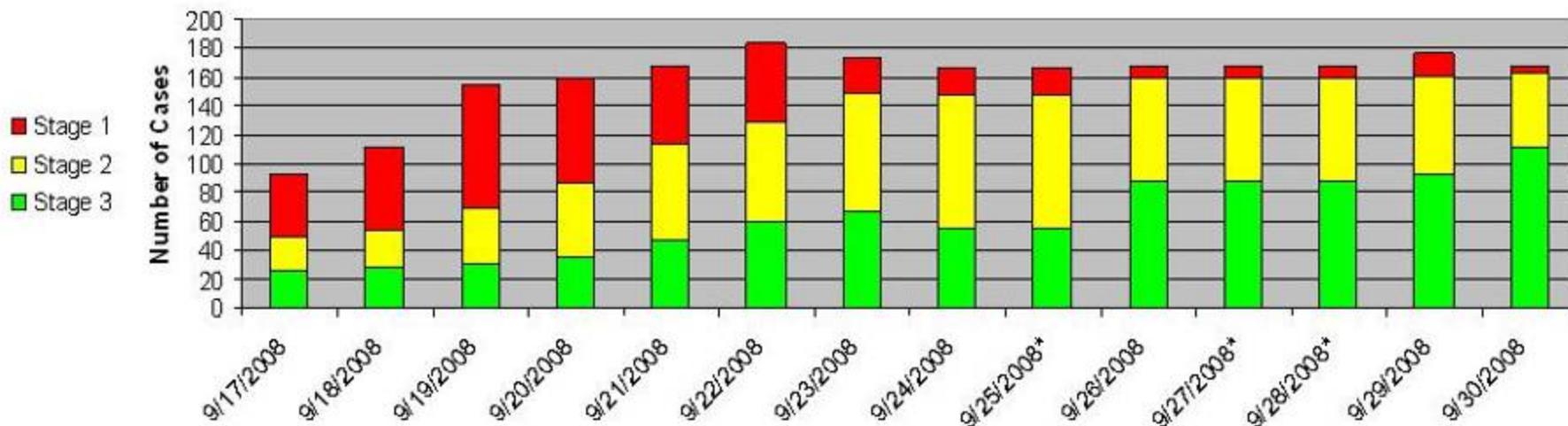




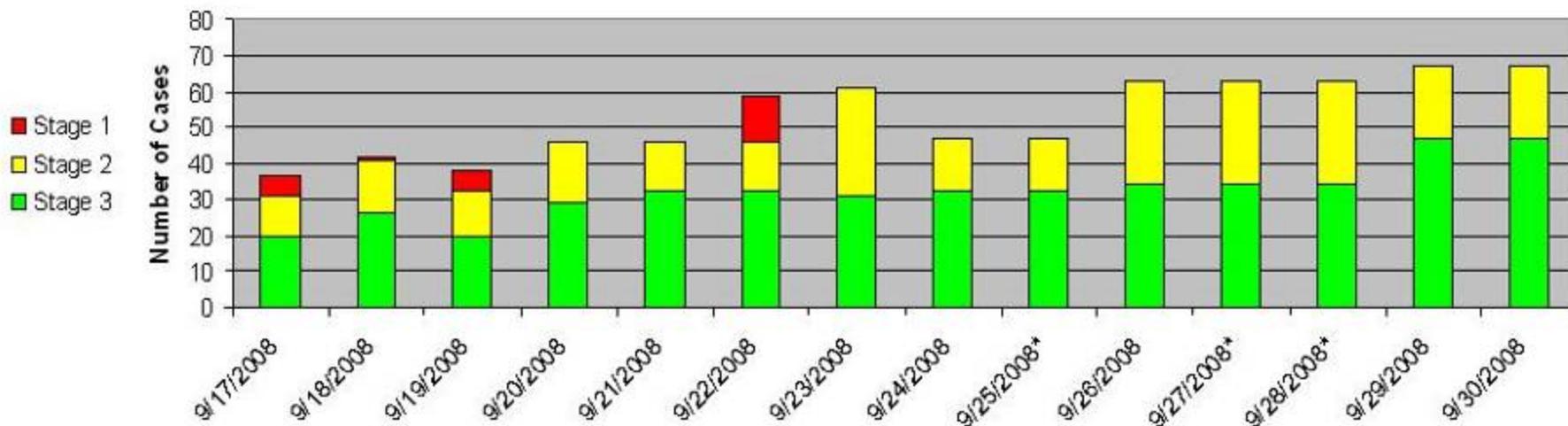
# Coast Guard Sector Houston - Galveston's Hurricane IKE Response



### Houston/Galveston Stage Progression



### Port Arthur Stage Progression



\* Denotes data from previous day



# Coast Guard Sector Houston - Galveston's Hurricane IKE Response

## Successes

- Sector had ordered 40+ qualified field personnel prior to landfall that were staged in San Antonio
- Pre-deployment of Strike Team personnel, including the 10-person Hazmat Team
- Joint use of resources; vehicles & boats for transportation
- Joint prioritization of sites
- NOAA support in H-G and Port Arthur

## Challenges

- Funding; mission assignment process is too slow for initial actions
- Opened “general” FPN for \$3M which has limitations (no PFRAs)
- Data management – feeding the beast and tracking field operations





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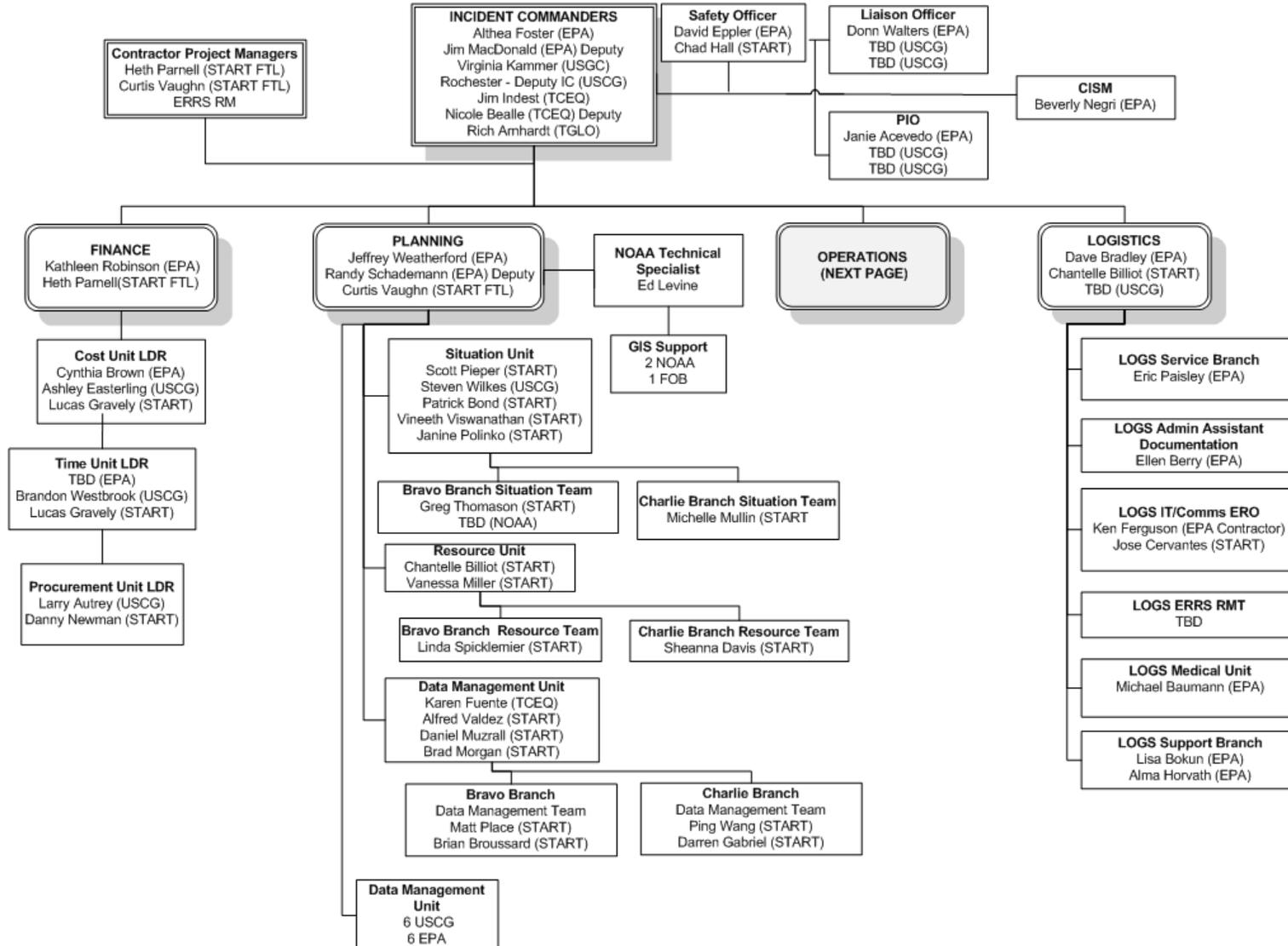
Parallel to the field operations, the CG, EPA and State agencies were having daily telcons to discuss daily operations and plans for stand-up of ESF10.

- EPA Operations Section Chief met with CG Ops several days prior to stand-up and they developed an integrated response organization for all ESF10 tasks
- I met with CG Commanders in Houston, Galveston and Port Arthur to explain ESF10 and assess their needs & concerns
- ESF10 ICP stand-up & integration on 21 September went smooth
- CG left the UC 15 October after closing or transferring the few remaining cases to CG commanders; GST stayed to support ongoing EPA operations



# Emergency Support Function #10

## Unified Command Organization



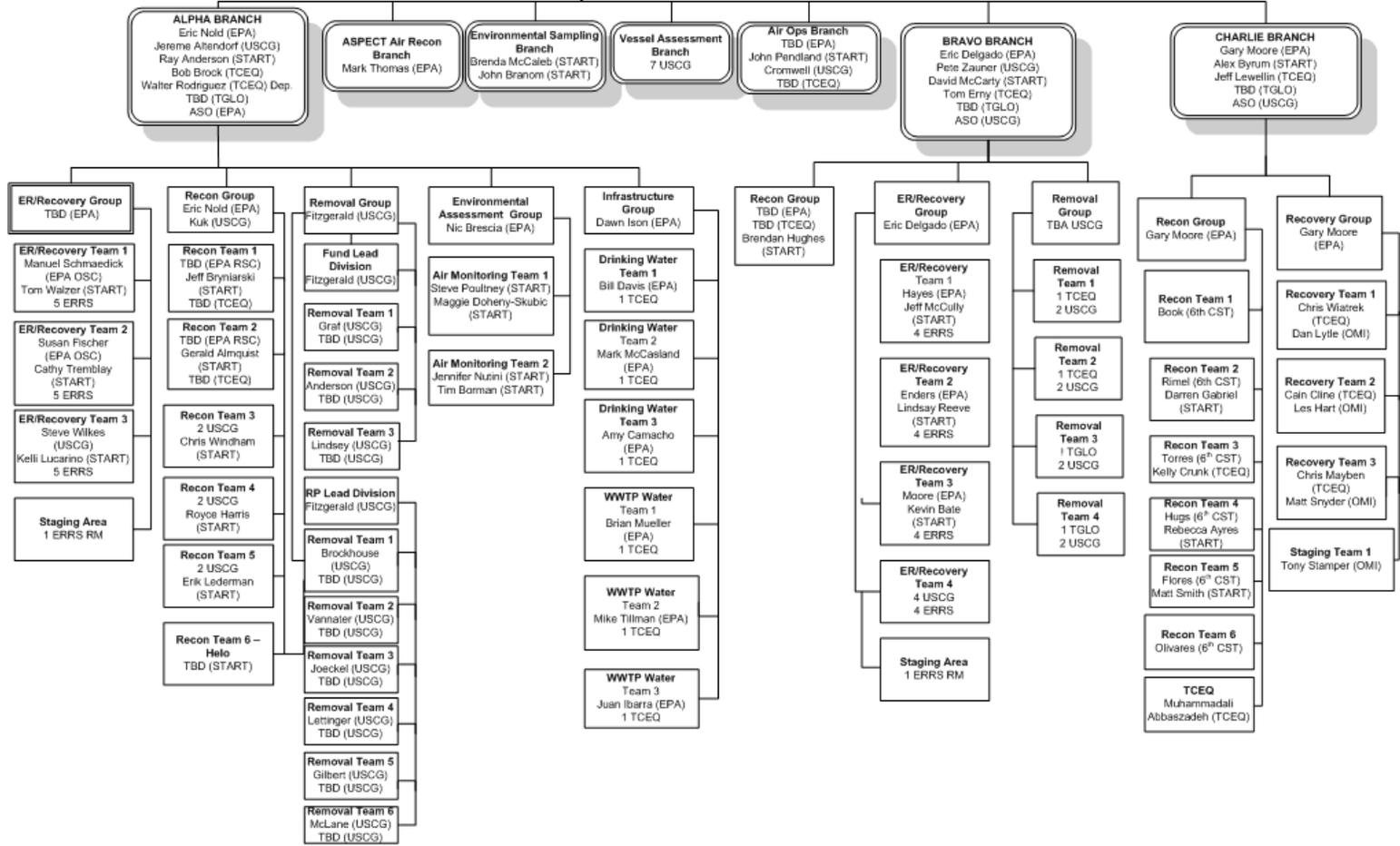


# Emergency Support Function #10 Operations Section Organization



**OPERATIONS**  
Operations Section Chief  
Nic Brescia (EPA OSC)  
DOPS: Hillary Gafford (START)  
DOPS: B. Rhotenberry  
Ryan Dickson (USCG)  
Heth Parnell (START)  
John Foster (ERRS)

**HURRICANE IKE  
Unified Command  
Operations**





# Hurricane IKE: Emergency Support Function #10



What went well:

- Cooperation among and integration of all agencies, including local fire departments
- Designation by the USCG FOSC (Sector Houston-Galveston) of a Coast Guard Incident Commander (CGIC) for ESF10
- NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator support in Houston, Port Arthur, and Lake Charles
- Mission assignment for pre-deployment of Gulf Strike Team resources to assist the EPA and Sector significantly enhanced response capability
- Separation of ESF10 function/personnel from Sector to unified ESF10 location
- Proactive media engagement & public outreach



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What could be improved:

- Communication from the JFO on mission assignment status
- A single CG POC for the CGIC for ESF10 to deal with on funding and logistical issues
- Funding must be equitable
- Delineation of responsibilities among higher echelons
- Expansion of the mission assignment area to include counties south of the direct impact zone to include all natural debris collection areas
- Remember the local agencies early – they can help you!
- Data management and integration



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Questions?



Questions?

ESF 10 Unified Commanders talking to the Houston Chronicle