



Two Miners Trapped in Copiah County Gravel Pit June 3 - 13, 2016

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency



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FY 2016 | OVERVIEW

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency's mission is to coordinate activities that will save lives, protect property and reduce suffering of Mississippi's citizens and their communities impacted by disasters through a comprehensive and integrated program of disaster preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

The Agency is comprised of six offices: Mitigation, Preparedness, Radiological Emergency Preparedness, Recovery, Response and Support Services.

In FY16, MEMA saw a transition of leadership as Lee W. Smithson was appointed Executive Director by Gov. Phil Bryant on Feb. 1, 2016 to replace the retiring Robert Latham Jr. In his first two days on the job, Mr. Smithson saw a 33 tornado outbreak across the state, which thankfully caused very little significant damage.

For the final five months of FY16, Mr. Smithson led the recovery efforts in the presidentially declared disaster in north Mississippi from the Dec. 23, 2015 tornadoes and coordinated the response and recovery effort to another presidentially declared flooding disaster in 26 counties from severe storms in March 2016.

Mr. Smithson's commitment is to make MEMA the most technologically advanced emergency management agency in the country. By leveraging technology, the goal is to save taxpayer dollars and increase efficiency in all of the Agency's functions. His motto of "Preparing for Tomorrow's Disasters Today," is the driving force behind working to protect all 2.9 million Mississippians.

This annual report highlights the work of MEMA's 155 employees who:

- helped train and prepare thousands of Mississippi first responders through classes, exercises and planning development.
- coordinated the disbursement of more than 100 million dollars in disaster recovery grants to communities around the state.
- worked tirelessly to keep the public informed of potential dangers and provided critical recovery information and resources to citizens that were caught in harm's way.





State of Emergencies

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

December 25, 2015 – Severe Weather and Tornadoes

- Damage was reported in at least six counties after severe storms and tornadoes moved through a portion of the state
- FEMA Disaster 4248

December 30, 2015 – Mississippi River Flood

- Due to flooding in upper MS River Basin and Ohio River Basin

February 2, 2016 – Tornadoes

- Thunderstorms and Tornadoes beginning on Feb. 2, 2016 and continuing throughout the day.

March 10, 2016 – Flooding

- Flooding in Washington and Jackson Counties
- FEMA Disaster 4268

August 13, 2016 - Flooding

- Heavy rainfall and severe flooding in Adams, Amite, Pike, Wilkinson, and other counties.
- NWS in Slidell, LA reports over 20 inches of rain in some parts of South Mississippi.



F FEMA Declared Disasters

DR-4248

Dec. 23, 2015 Tornadoes

2:54 p.m. EF-3 tornado, winds of 160 formed in Bolivar County and stayed on ground for 63 miles through Coahoma, Quitman and Panola counties. That tornado reformed over Marshall County as an EF-4, winds of 170 mph and stayed on the ground for 75 miles through Benton and Tippah counties, continuing into Tennessee.

ELEVEN deaths and 57 injuries.

Benton: SIX deaths.

Coahoma: TWO deaths.

Marshall: TWO deaths.

Tippah: ONE death.

More than 230 homes destroyed or sustained major damage, more than 450 others had minor damage.

Presidential Disaster Declaration granted on January 4, 2016.

Individual Assistance: \$2.4 million in 8 counties

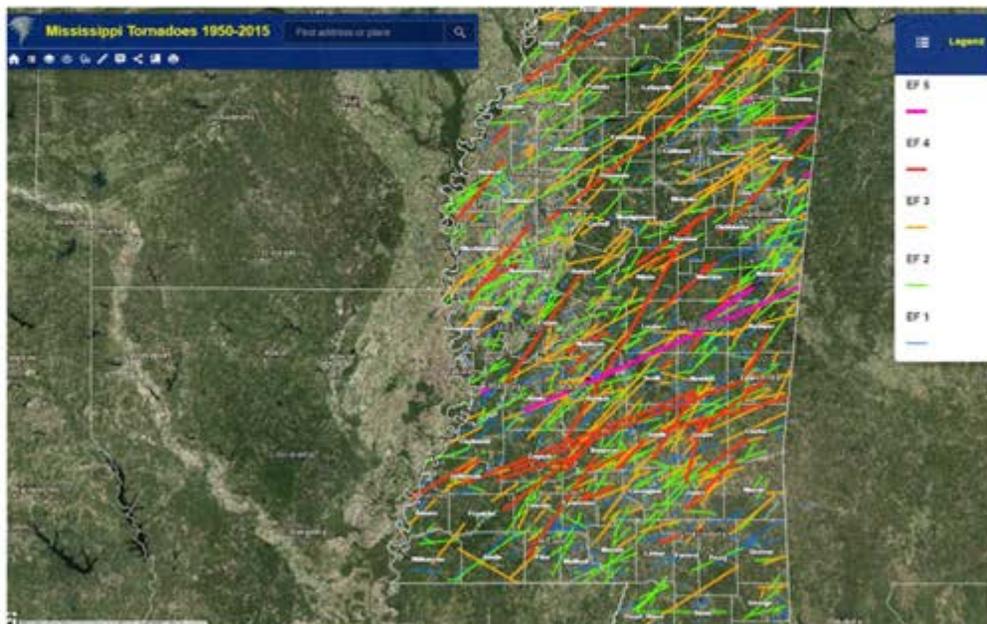
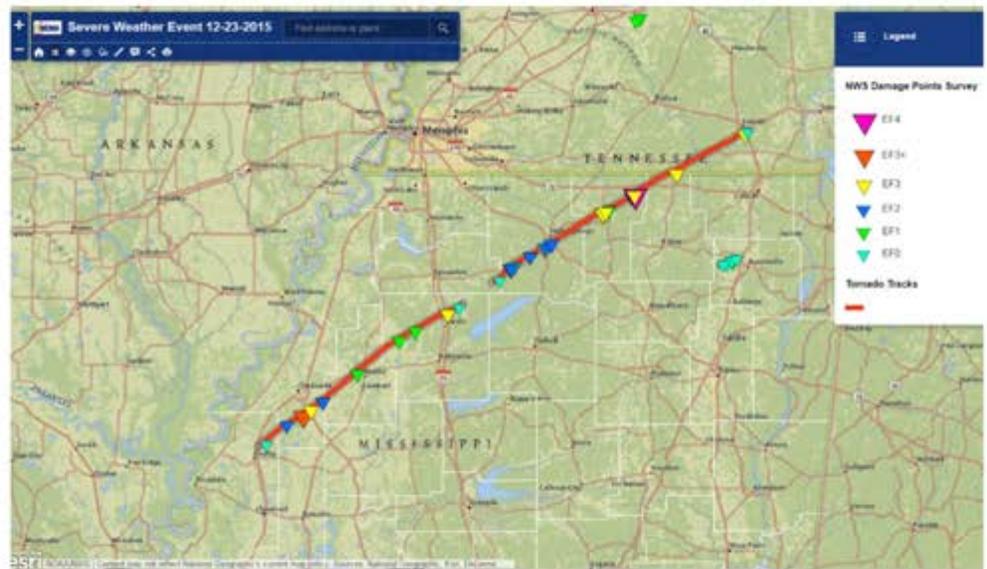
363 applications from Marshall Co.

SBA Loans: 49 approved for \$3.044 million

Home: 47 for \$3.015 million

Business: 2 for \$29,000

Public Assistance: \$7.594 million



F FEMA Declared Disasters

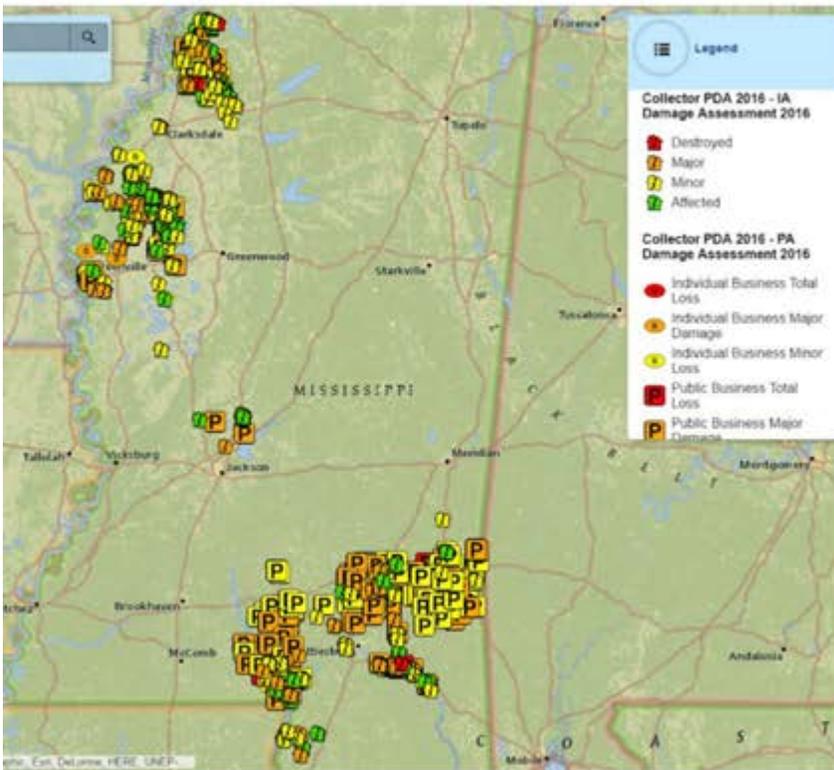
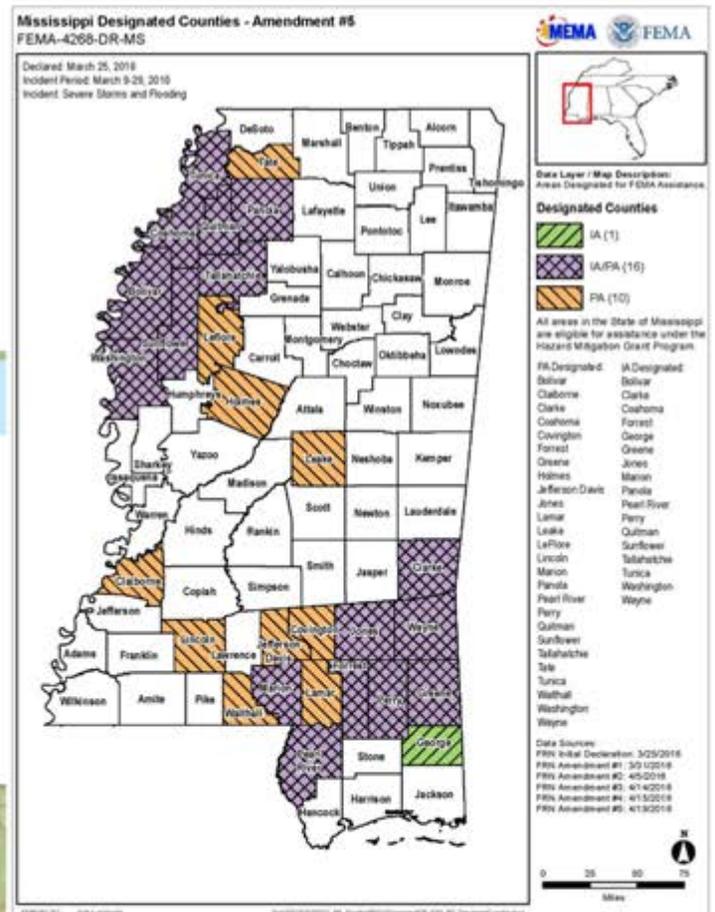
DR-4268
March 8-12 Flooding

Multiple rounds of torrential rains fell almost continuously across Mississippi from March 8-12, 2016. These prolonged torrential rains resulted in widespread flash flooding and river flooding across the state, with numerous rivers reaching moderate and major flood stages. Floodwaters damaged more than 600 homes and businesses, and closed many primary and secondary roads with several being washed out.

Presidential Disaster Declaration for 26 counties.
Individual Assistance: \$7.5 million in 17 counties.
363 applications from Marshall Co.

SBA Loans: 155 approved for \$6 million.
Home: 144 for \$5.3 million
Business: 11 for \$582,000

Public Assistance: \$11.8 million.





Office of Preparedness

MEMA's Planning, Training and Exercise Bureaus are assigned to coordinate the agency's preparedness mission, to collect and disseminate incident action plans and situation reports during incidents/events, to develop and maintain plans, to prepare and execute development of exercises and facilitate a wide range of training statewide.

EXERCISE

The Exercise Bureau designed and facilitated 44 exercises with an attendance of 4,962 first responders.

These numbers don't reflect how many exercises the counties put on by themselves. That number is almost 300.

PLANNING

- Agency COOP Plan Developed
- Hurricane Plan Developed June, 2016
- MEMA Building Evacuation Plan Developed
- State CEMP update completed September, 2015
- Office of Preparedness SOP October, 2015
- SEOC Plans Section SOP
- County CEMP Template Developed and delivered
- Taught 16 Damage Assessment 101 classes to approximately 155 people

TRAINING

TOTAL PERSONNEL TRAINED: 4,009

TOTAL NUMBER OF CLASSES: 182





Office of Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program

Grand Gulf Graded Exercise

On October 21, 2015, the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IV, and Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program staff evaluated a hostile action based plume exposure pathway exercise in the emergency planning zones for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station in Claiborne County and the host counties of Adams, Copiah, Hinds and Warren.

A hostile action against the nuclear plant took place with coordination taking place between Entergy, law enforcement, emergency management and other states agencies in Mississippi and Louisiana. Federal participation included the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) FEMA Regions IV and VI, and the FBI. The cooperation and teamwork of the participants was evident throughout all phases of the exercise. The states and local organizations demonstrated knowledge of their emergency response plans and procedures and implemented them successfully.

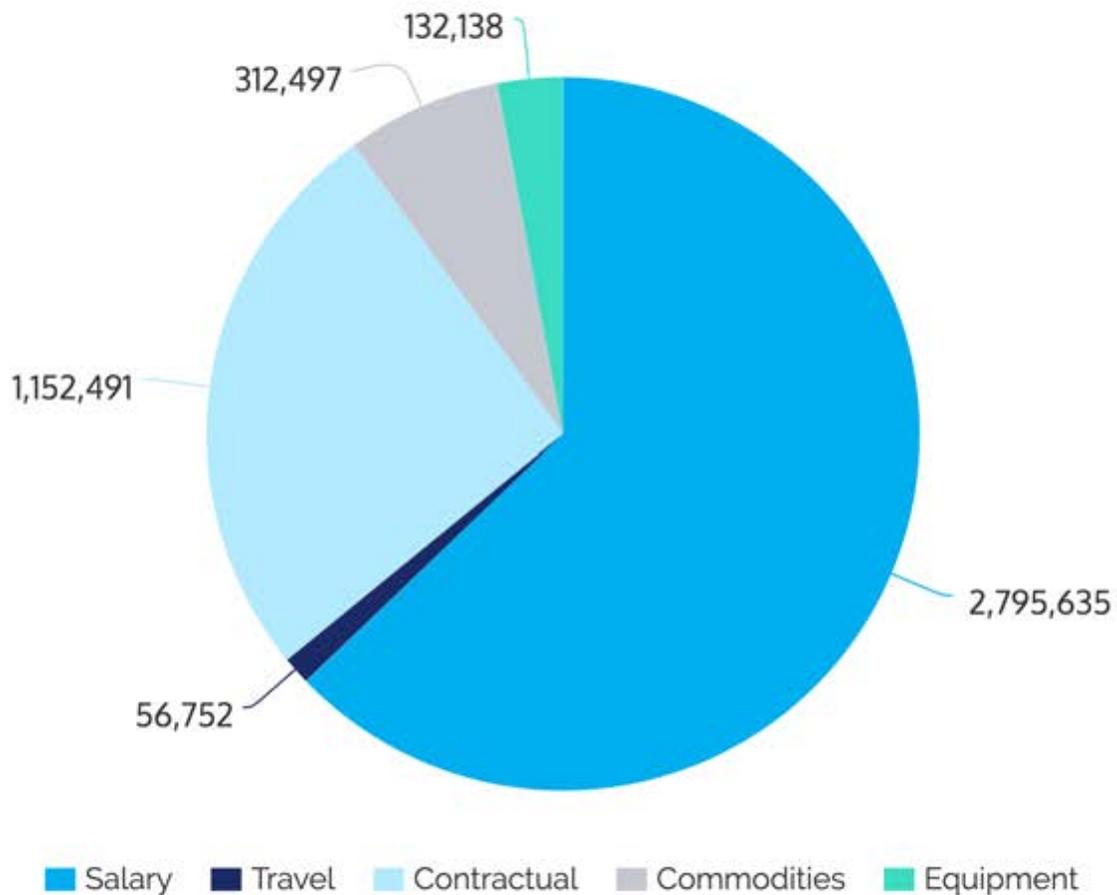


This Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Hostile Action Based (HAB) exercise implemented several firsts in innovation. Of note, was the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) which provided a dedicated teleconference level face-to-face information sharing platform for situational awareness in real-time. This real-time information sharing greatly enhanced situational awareness for decision makers in making realistic response decisions. Additionally, notification time to multiple responders was a significantly faster than previous exercises. The Nixle/INFORM mass-notification system provided state and county participants near immediate notification time for initial notifications, follow-up notifications and updates concerning emergency response to the exercise scenario.



Office of Support Services

Budget



Money Spent

721. Appropriated: 3,873,377 - reduction 74,822 = net 3,798,555

722. Appropriated: 663,780 - reduction 12,822 = net 650,958



Office of Recovery

Open Federal Disaster Payments FY16

Disaster		Public Assistance	Mitigation	State Disaster Payments
Hurricane Katrina	1604	\$59,322,286	\$28,600,706	\$447,690
2008 MS River Flood	1753		\$65,716	\$4,864
Hurricane Gustav	1794	\$582,363	\$16,855	\$-
Yazoo City Tornado	1906	\$17,758	\$(36,641)	\$-
2010 North Miss. Storms	1916	\$242,972	\$149,814	\$74,001
2011 Smithville Tornado	1972	\$28,160	\$727,587	\$576,513
2011 MS River Flood	1983	\$181,269	\$4,973	\$153,240
Hurricane Isaac	4081	\$2,267,864	\$1,043,186	\$375,728
Pine Belt Tornadoes	4101	\$1,005,051	\$701,579	\$67,768
2014 Louisville Tornado	4175	\$29,720,303	\$528,021	\$708,366
4175-Disaster Case Management		\$51,530		\$-
Marion Co. Tornado	4205	\$96,913	\$-	\$-
Dec. 23, 2015 Tornadoes	4248			\$583,076
March 2016 Flooding	4268			\$392,861
TOTAL		\$93,516,469	\$31,801,796	\$3,384,107
			GRAND TOTAL:	\$128,702,372

Non-Disaster Grants

Preparedness		Response	
Community Assistance Program	\$169,172	Health Dept Grant	\$146,986
HazMat Emergency Preparedness	\$208,143		
Waste Isolation Program	\$76,235		
Radiological Emergency Program	\$387,850		
EMPG (County)	\$2,624,222		
EMPG (State)	\$1,890,725		
		TOTAL:	\$5,503,333



Office of Response

Communications Calls



Weather Incidents: 1,494

Hazardous Materials: 1,239

Transportation Incidents: 194

Manmade: 225

TOTAL: 3,152



Office of Mitigation

Floodplain Management Bureau

330 NFIP communities participating
 27 Community Rating System Communities
 Average savings per policy in CRS community \$ 67.00
 Total CRS Community savings \$3,162,744.00
 Policies in Force: 63,959
 Insurance in Force in MS: \$16 billion
 Flood Insurance claims to date in MS: 59,000
 Flood Insurance payout to date: \$2.9 billion+
 Average yearly premium in MS: 668.83

The staff performed the following:

26 Community Assistance visits
 250 Floodplain Reviews
 174 Technical Assistance visits/contacts
 26 Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Reviews
 600 Substantial Damage Assessments

Mitigation Planning Bureau

Mitigation Planning Bureau
 2 Regional Jurisdictional Plans Developed and Approved covering 81 jurisdictions
 1 Disaster Resistant University Plan Approved
 4 Regional Plans under development covering 140 jurisdictions

Mitigation Grants Bureau

10 Open Disasters
 Federal Funds Obligated \$ 331,529,633
 Managing more than 100 Open projects
 Payments made totaling more than \$32,543,363.42
 Closed projects totaling more than \$ 19 million



**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS:
 A CHILD'S JOURNEY
 IN MISSISSIPPI**



Mitigation Kids' Campaign

Jake, the Mitigation wizard, leads Delta the Disaster Dog and Pearl the Preparedness Pup along with other disaster "expert" friends discussing how to prepare and mitigate against all disasters.





Geographic Information Systems (GIS) & Common Operating Picture (COP)

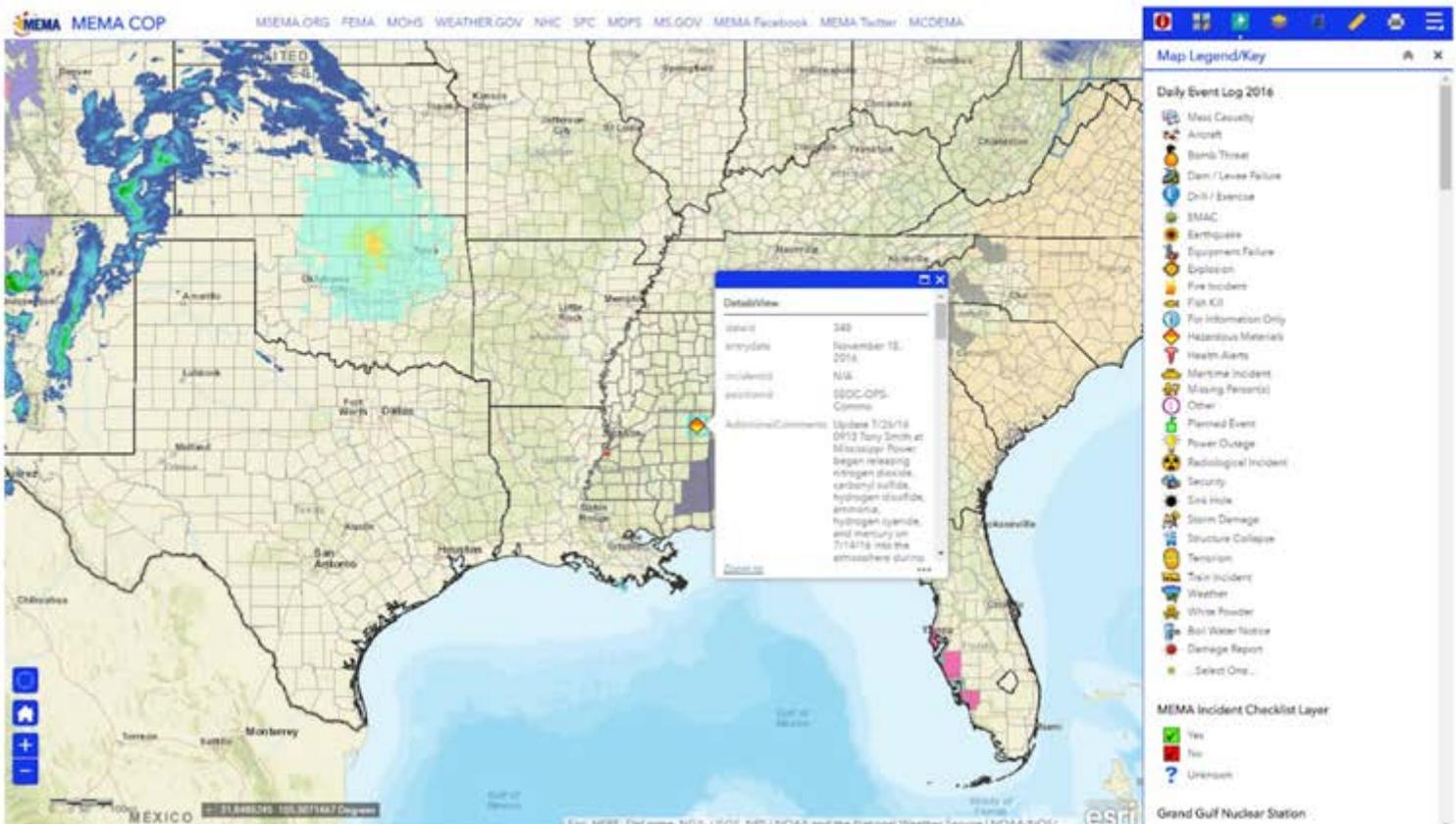
In mid-2016 MEMA Geographical Information System (GIS) created the MEMA Common Operating Picture. The "COP" provides real-time situational awareness based on data that is collected from WebEOC. MEMA uses the Daily Event Log within WebEOC to track real-time events occurring in Mississippi from the moment they are reported to Agency, to the time they are resolved. For example; if an accident occurs on a Mississippi highway and a hazardous chemical is spilled, this information can be shown geographically and include details as to who is responding, injuries, evacuation information etc.

Additionally, services are being consumed from the US Geological Survey (USGS), MS Department of Transportation (MDOT), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), just to name a few. These organizations are providing information concerning weather, earthquakes and the conditions of MS roadways to include traffic cameras. The COP also has the ability to feature landmark structures within a certain area, like police and fire stations, hospitals and other locations.

The MEMA COP greatly enhances situational awareness and communications. It's just one more tool in the arsenal that decision makers have at their disposal during an Emergency Response.

In 2016 MEMA GIS provided geospatial support to a wide variety of local, state and federal partners. This is by no means an all-encompassing list but merely highlights the majority of the activities.

- Over 300 paper and or digital maps created (Operational Response & Recovery)
- Hosted United Nations Emergency Management GIS Workshop in October 2015
- Provided geospatial products to support approximately 13 Exercises
- Coordinated and hosted 4 quarterly MCCRSGIS Executive meetings
- Created approximately 21 ArcGIS Online Web Mapping Applications
- Created approximately 42 ArcGIS Online Web Maps



D Digital Communication Tools



Twitter
16,194 Followers
921 Tweets
2,380,303 Impressions



Facebook
85,605 Likes
365 Posts
26,681,526 Impressions



Website
168,513 Website Visits
297,495 Website Pages Viewed



Mobile App
6,305 Android Downloads
11,300 iOS Downloads



16,502 Video Views
12,588 Minutes Watched

MEMA's External Affairs office focuses on educating Mississippians on preparedness during non-disaster times, and provides emergency public information to the media and citizens during times of crisis and disaster through multiple communications platforms.

In addition to traditional media messaging (print, radio, and TV), there has been an increased usage of digital communication tools to ensure MEMA is reaching target audiences online for both desktop and mobile. These digital tools are essential during crisis time because many Mississippians look to these platforms for information.

E Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Missions

Hawaii, September 2015

A four-man team comprised of three Mississippi Emergency Management Agency staff and one Mississippi Army National Guard member supported Hawaii to support response and recovery efforts to Hurricanes Ignacio and Jimena. Ignacio was a major hurricane with sustained winds of 140 mph and Jimena was a major hurricane with sustained winds of 135 mph. The team was specifically requested by Hawaii Emergency Management.

These team members also deployed to Hawaii in August 2014, as the islands faced a similar threat of back to back tropical systems.

South Carolina, October 2015

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency provided nine staff members to South Carolina to support historic flooding response and recovery from Hurricane Joaquin in October 2015. The staff was comprised of the Mitigation Office Director, Logistics Chief, an operations officer, a public information officer, three floodplain personnel, individual assistance specialist, and volunteer coordinator. Mississippi was specifically requested by South Carolina Department of Emergency Management. All told the missions lasted into November.

In 2017, Mississippi will assume the role of coordinating state for all EMAC missions nationwide. This is a prestigious position and a testament to the expertise and respect MEMA has throughout the nation with regards to emergency management.



D Disaster Reservists

In FY16, MEMA made a commitment to strengthen and sustain the Disaster Reservist Program.

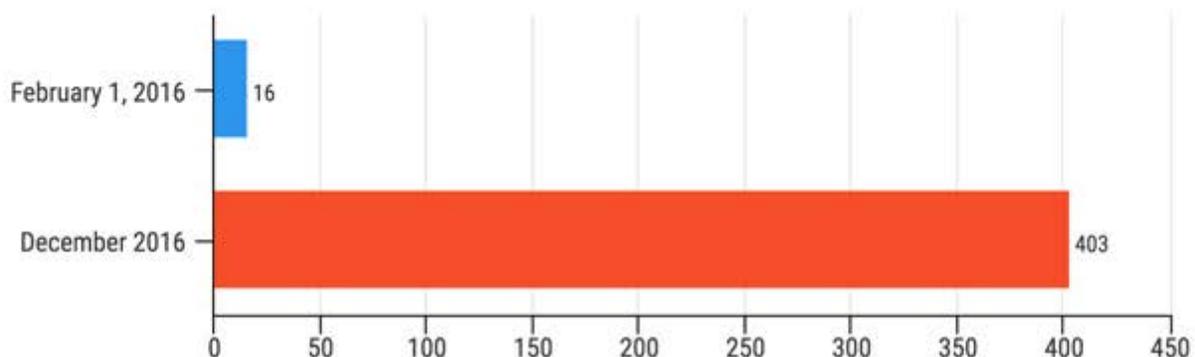
The reservist program was created to provide a corps of trained and experienced Mississippians who can be activated on an as-needed basis to meet staffing needs during emergencies. The program keeps a database of individuals with skills and experience that may be used during disasters.

When Director Lee Smithson took over on Feb. 1, 2016 there were only 16 registered reservists. At the time of this publication there are more than 400.

Disaster Reservists may include individuals with logistics, public information, public works and engineering backgrounds, but individuals with other experiences may also be used. Individuals may also be retired from government or private industry careers and be available to enter into a contract once a disaster or emergency occurs. Reservists will be required to attend training at least two times each year on state and federal emergency plans. Once a reservist is put onto active-duty status, he or she will become a contract employee of MEMA for the duration of their deployment or mission assignment. Reservist pay is based on training, skills and experience.

Anyone interested in becoming a Disaster Reservist can apply on the MEMA website, www.msema.org.

of Disaster Reservists Since New Administration





Disabilities Integration Advisor

In FY16, MEMA became just the third state emergency management agency in the country to hire a full-time Disabilities Integration Advisor. Christy Dunaway now leads Mississippi's effort to ensure everyone has access to preparedness, response and recovery information during times of emergency. Research shows at least 20% of Mississippians function with some type of disability. Some of the areas MEMA is focusing on are:

Ensuring public information is available to those that are visually and/or hearing impaired.

Coordinating efforts in counties to provide full accessibility in safe rooms, shelters and disaster recovery centers.

Working to include functional needs considerations in all aspects of emergency planning.

Encouraging those with disabilities to become disaster reservists to have a role in disaster response and recovery.

In FY17, MEMA will have a new committee to address the needs and issues surrounding those disabilities called RARE, Response and Recovery for Everyone. It is MEMA's goal to lead the nation in serving people with disabilities or functional needs.





March Flooding 2016 | Photo Taken In Clarksdale, MS

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Mississippi Emergency Management Agency





"Preparing for Tomorrow's Disasters Today"

-Executive Director Lee Smithson

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