



**Tropical Storm Ana
Islands of Hawaii
October 17-18, 2014
ESF #11 After Action Report (AAR)**



Incident Summary

At 1126PDT on October 15th FEMA Region IX sent an Emergency Notification System (ENS) message (both e-mail and telecom) notifying FEMA and Other Federal Agency (OFA) personnel that the Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) would be activated to a Level 2 (Partial ESF Activation) on October 17th for 24/7 operations starting at 0900-2100PDT in response to Tropical Storm ANA heading toward Hawaii. ESF11 was not requested to activate in this order. However, RIX contacted ESF11 by (telecom and e-mail) at 1336 PDT on October 16th activating ESF11 and to report to the RRCC at 0900 October 17th (Friday) for the Initial Shift Brief for the event. RIX also deployed a 33 person IMAT with ESFs 1, 8, & 12 to Oahu on Thursday, Oct 16th to support the State of Hawaii.

The Tropical Storm was approximately 300 miles SE of the Hawaiian Islands at 0900 PDT (Friday, OCT17) heading NW and forecast to impact the Big Island later that evening as a Category 1 Hurricane. At the end of the first O-period (2100 PDT), upgraded Cat 1 Hurricane Ana was 150 miles S of the Big Island with heavy rains (4-6 inches) and Tropical Storm force winds beginning to impact the Big Island and Maui. By 0900PDT (Sunday, OCT 19th) Hurricane Ana was passing 105 miles south of Kauai tracking WNW with no reports of significant damage. As a result, Region IX reduced the RRCC staff to partial staffing on Sunday the 19th with only ESFs 3 and 6 required and deactivated the RRCC on Monday the 20th when the storm was downgraded to a Tropical Storm and was 225 miles WSW of Kauai.

During the activation, ESF11 was requested by the State for information pertaining to food commodity resources and emergency response guidance for zoological institutions on island. Food Nutrition Service (FNS) promptly provided a list of on-island food commodity inventories and request guidelines (if needed) and APHIS Animal Care Subject Matter Expert (SME) coordinated with HI Dept. of Agriculture with response guidance information.

Lessons Learned

Successful

- Connectivity to wireless system in RRCC due to recent updates from ITD.
- Communication from APHIS Programs, State Emergency Board, and State partners was timely and provided all the requested and necessary information throughout the activation.
- PM Reach-back capability (no personnel required for PM shift) was sufficient due to the severity and geographic location (time zone) of this event.

Challenges/Areas for Improvement

- New iPhone “Hot Spot” (air card) was inoperable during event.
- Due to recent downsizing of the ROSS Dispatchers, ESF11 plans to engage with all the ROSS Dispatchers to provide a common understanding of the resource request process in FTC to ensure each dispatcher can back-up one another when needed.
- Consistent and coordinate messaging from RRCC/NRCC.
- Suggest creating a template for a uniform, call down/notification process for all USDA Agencies.