

Katrina EH Effort at NASA Facilities on Gulf Coast



EH Participants

- No shortage of volunteers from Centers
- EH personnel on site
 - Mike Moore, MAF
 - Mike Rewis, SSC
 - Mike Blotzer, SSC
 - Kevin Oliver, SSC

EH Participants

- EH personnel from other Centers
 - Ames, David King
 - HQ, Guy Camomilli
 - JSC, Adrien Adams
 - KSC, Gary Bergstrom, John Sherwood
 - LaRC, Carter Ficklen, Kim Merritt, Patricia Cowin, Roger Johnston
 - MSFC, David Thaxton

Michoud Situation

- Model effort for prep, rideout, and recovery
 - Well planned and executed
 - Teamwork was excellent
- Minor facility damage....relative to surrounding areas
- 4 Pumps, 450K gallon per minute pumps kept site dry
- Morale was high and coordination was world class
- A homogeneous unit



SSC Situation

- Much wind and water damage to facilities
- 1,800 unanticipated visitors
- Evacuees sheltered in, buildings, shops, labs, test stands, etc.
- Multiple (many) tenant organizations to coordinate
- FEMA staging site



EH Recovery Rationale

- Pre-visit needs/challenges presumption
 - Physical, chemical, biological exposure potential
- Selection of EH personnel with hurricane/flood experience
- Visit to assess needs and plan support
- Focus was on SSC

Assessed Needs

- Visitation needs assessment:
 - IH – mold, asbestos total facility assessment
 - Sanitation – food, disease vectors, potable water, communicable diseases
 - Training and education – disease prevention, remediation techniques, and PPE for SSC and “Stennis Helping Stennis” effort
 - Tie in with overall facilities remediation effort

Resources Supplied



- EH technical support
- EH education/training
- EH equipment, tools, supplies
- Input into the SSC institutional recovery effort

Lessons Learned

- Improve EH team hand-off or longer team times on-site
- The “Program Contact” section of our web site was a plus in finding the EH experienced personnel <http://ohp.nasa.gov/disciplines/env-health/ehspec.html>
- CERT concept for response by and for NASA Centers
- Develop computer-based assessment forms and tools for post-disaster damage assessments

Lessons Learned Continued

- Establish standing procurement agreements to obtain materials during disasters
- Establish standing contract agreements to establish temporary chain of command management structures during disasters
- Remember that no good deed goes unpunished – be sure to cover yourselves

Effectiveness



Were we effective?