



TROPICAL STORM DEBBY

State Emergency Response Team
www.FloridaDisaster.org



Rick Scott
Governor

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IMPACTS FROM TROPICAL DEPRESSION DEBBY FELT ACROSS FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE – Governor Rick Scott is monitoring the impacts of Tropical Depression Debby and continues to work with the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) to ensure timely and effective response to the impacted counties.

On Monday, the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee upgraded operations to Level One, full activation, and Governor Scott declared a state of emergency to allow for the potential deployment of resources as needs develop. Yesterday, Governor Scott surveyed the damage and flooding in Wakulla County and along the Sopchoppy River where residents saw more than 21 inches of rain over the last two days.

Tropical Depression Debby moved offshore last night and is currently located about 25 miles southeast of St. Augustine.

“While Tropical Storm Debby was downgraded to a tropical depression last night, Florida continues to feel the impacts from the storm,” said Governor Scott. “It is imperative that Florida’s residents and visitors in the affected areas continue to follow instructions from local officials to ensure the safety of their families and businesses in the wake of this storm.”

The primary concern from Debby is the massive amount of rainfall that has blanketed the state this past week and the resulting flood impacts. Rivers that have crested as a result of Debby or are forecasted to crest this week include the Black Creek, St. Mary’s, Suwannee, Sopchoppy, Econfina and Santa Fe rivers.

The SERT is beginning to work with county and federal partners to assess damage from Tropical Storm Debby. Partnering for preliminary damage assessments ensures that all impacts are carefully recorded and prioritized according to the greatest need. This information is essential for requesting assistance from state and federal emergency management agencies.

Franklin County was among the hardest hit areas by Tropical Storm Debby. Reopening St. George Island is vital to its economy and the SERT will continue to work with Franklin County officials to ensure all resources are available for a quick recovery.

As of 6:30 a.m., more than 11,000 customers are without power in 39 counties. There are 15 shelters open in Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Hernando, Leon, Nassau, Pasco, Pinellas, Suwannee and Wakulla counties, including three special needs shelters, one in Pasco County and one in Baker County and one in Nassau County. Three deaths have been confirmed as a result of the storm in Pinellas, Highlands and Polk counties.

Governor Scott thanks all of the first responders, emergency management officials at the local and state levels, utility workers, volunteers and relief organizations who are working to protect Floridians, prevent further damage and provide relief to those in need.

The Atlantic Hurricane Season runs from June 1 – November 30. To GET A PLAN! visit www.FloridaDisaster.org. For the latest information on the 2012 Hurricane Season, follow us on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/flsert and on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/FloridaSERT.

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