



**THE STATE OF FLORIDA
STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM**

CHARLIE CRIST
Governor

CRAIG FUGATE
State Coordinating Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 21, 2008

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**FLORIDA RECEIVES FEDERAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION IN
RESPONSE TO TROPICAL STORM FAY**

~ Assistance to cover response costs in Florida counties impacted by Tropical Storm Fay~

TALLAHASSEE – Governor Charlie Crist today announced that Florida has received an Emergency Declaration from the President of the United States, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as a result of the flooding rains and severe weather caused by Tropical Storm Fay August 18, 2008 and continuing.

“We are grateful to President Bush and Administrator Paulison for their timely response in granting this request,” said Governor Crist. “Nearly all of our 67 counties will have been impacted by the time Fay leaves our state and these funds will help our local and state partners recoup the costs of keeping Floridians safe.”

The initial request, submitted by the Governor on August 20, is specifically for disaster assistance through the Public Assistance program, in categories A and B to cover the costs of debris removal and protective measures taken by the counties and state agencies to ensure the safety of their residents during the landfall and trek of Tropical Storm Fay across the state.

“This is the first step in our ongoing efforts to identify and receive the essential resources of financial assistance to the counties impacted by Tropical Storm Fay,” said Craig Fugate, Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management. “Our state recovery teams continue to catalog the damages from this epic storm and we look forward to working with our federal colleagues in the weeks to come.”

Teams of State and local officials, in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, are currently conducting damage assessments in counties that were impacted by the storm. These assessments will continue as the storm moves through Florida.

For additional information on Tropical Storm Fay and the State Emergency Response Team, please visit the Florida Division of Emergency Management online at: www.FloridaDisaster.org

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DECLARED: August 21, 2008

SUMMARY

In the event of an **emergency** declaration, the following information applies:

STATE: Florida
NUMBER: FEMA-3288-EM
INCIDENT: Tropical Storm Fay
INCIDENT PERIOD: August 18, 2008, and continuing
DATE REQUESTED BY GOVERNOR: August 20, 2008
FEDERAL COORDINATING OFFICER: Thomas P. Davies
National FCO Program

DESIGNATIONS AND TYPES OF ASSISTANCE:

The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is authorized to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in the designated areas. Specifically, FEMA is authorized to provide debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B), including direct Federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program at 75 percent Federal funding.

This assistance is for all 67 counties in the State of Florida.

OTHER: Additional designations may be made at a later date after further evaluation.

Note: This is an emergency declaration.