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## NEWS Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 28, 2017**  
RELEASE # 1778

### **More Guardsmen activated, equipment ready for Harvey**

**By Louisiana National Guard Public Affairs Office**

NEW ORLEANS - The Louisiana National Guard, as directed by Governor John Bel Edwards, has activated approximately 210 Soldiers and Airmen in response to Hurricane Harvey, with an additional 230 full-time Guardsmen supporting efforts.

Last week, the LANG began prepositioning Guardsmen, high water vehicles and boats in south Louisiana parishes, to include Calcasieu, Vermillion, Orleans, and Lafayette. In anticipation of the storm's continued northern track, however, the LANG has staged additional teams and equipment in upper parishes, to include Red River, Natchitoches, Caddo, and Rapides.

"Being ready and in place is as important as any training that we do, and our engagements at Parish level are absolutely critical," said Maj. Gen. Glenn H. Curtis, adjutant general of the LANG. "In anticipation of the storm's track, we continue prepositioning equipment and vehicles in potentially affected areas as well as responding to the immediate needs of today."

In addition to vehicles and boats, the LANG has eight helicopters ready to support search and rescue, evacuation and recon missions as needed.

To help better assist coordination efforts at the local level, the LANG has liaison officer teams in Allen, Calcasieu, Cameron and Orleans Parishes.

To date, the LANG has issued more than 1,152 MREs, 750 bottles of water and 247,000 sandbags.

Louisiana's Guardsmen are trained, ready and equipped to stand up at any moment to protect lives and property, maintain communications, and ensure the continuity of operations and government.

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**Cutlines:**

**170827-Z-GQ603-001**

The Louisiana National Guard's 769th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 256th Infantry Brigade Combat Team stages high water vehicles and boats at Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, August 27, 2017. The LANG began prepositioning Guardsmen, high water vehicles and boats in Calcasieu, Red River, Natchitoches, Caddo, Vermillion, Orleans, Lafayette and Rapides Parishes since last week. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Renee Seruntine)

**170827-Z-XX999-001**

Louisiana National Guard Sgt. Blayne Guidry, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment performs a readiness check on a search and rescue boat in Abbeville, Louisiana, August 28, 2017. The LANG began prepositioning Guardsmen, high water vehicles and boats in Calcasieu, Red River, Natchitoches, Caddo, Vermillion, Orleans, Lafayette and Rapides Parishes since last week. (Courtesy photo from 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment)

**170828-Z-XX999-002**

Louisiana Air National Guard Tech Sgt. Nolan Fletcher, a Luling, Louisiana native with the 122nd Air Support Operations Squadron, tests satellite communications at the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, August 28, 2017. The LANG began prepositioning Guardsmen, high water vehicles and boats in Calcasieu, Red River, Natchitoches, Caddo, Vermillion, Orleans, Lafayette and Rapides Parishes since last week. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Col. Ed Bush)