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GOV. SCOTT: OVER HALF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ACTIVATED; ADDITIONAL REQUESTS TO PRESIDENT

On October 6, 2016, in News Releases, by Staff

SANFORD, Fla. – Following the most recent update from the National Hurricane Center on Hurricane Matthew, Governor Scott has activated an additional 1,000 National Guard members. 3,500 members have now been activated. This is over half of the available troops that may be activated. Governor Scott has continued to activate more members to help with important life-saving operations, including evacuations and preparing for search and rescue missions. Governor Scott is requesting President Obama to send additional federal resources to Florida, including generators and pumps, that the state can preposition to help impacted areas.

Governor Rick Scott said, "Protecting lives remains our number one priority and that is why I have now activated over half of the National Guard who will play a big role in important life-saving missions. I have directed them to focus on prepositioning resources, assist with helping people evacuate safely and our sheltering operations. In the immediate aftermath of the storm, they will be involved in recovery efforts including search and rescue missions. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission also has high-water vehicles prepositioned across the state to help with these efforts.

"While the federal government has just approved our request for a pre-landfall emergency declaration for food, water and tarps, I am asking the President for additional generators and pumps to help with power outages and flooding once the storm hits. Following the most recent weather briefing from the National Hurricane Center, we can expect to have a lot of flooding, especially in Northeast Florida, and we will need additional pumping equipment from the federal government."