

July 2023 Vermont Flooding

Vermont National Guard Response

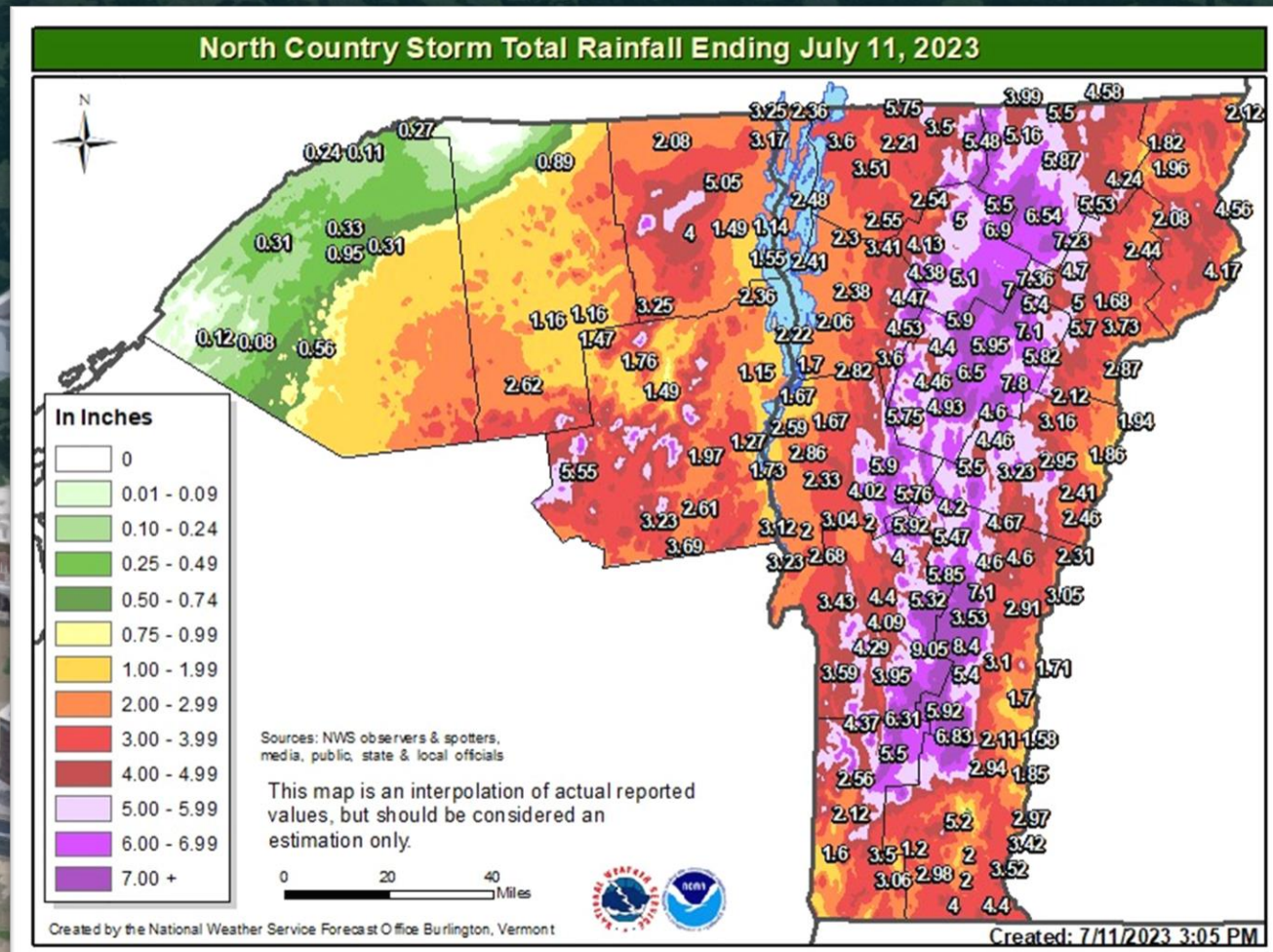
Situation

On July 09-10, 2023, a significant precipitation event drenched the state causing widespread flash flooding and sustained river flooding on par with the remnants of Hurricane Irene in 2011.

There were the loss of 2 lives, widespread impacts to infrastructure - most concerning several dams, and millions of dollars of damage.

In the following weeks additional precipitation events complicated response and recovery efforts.

Situation

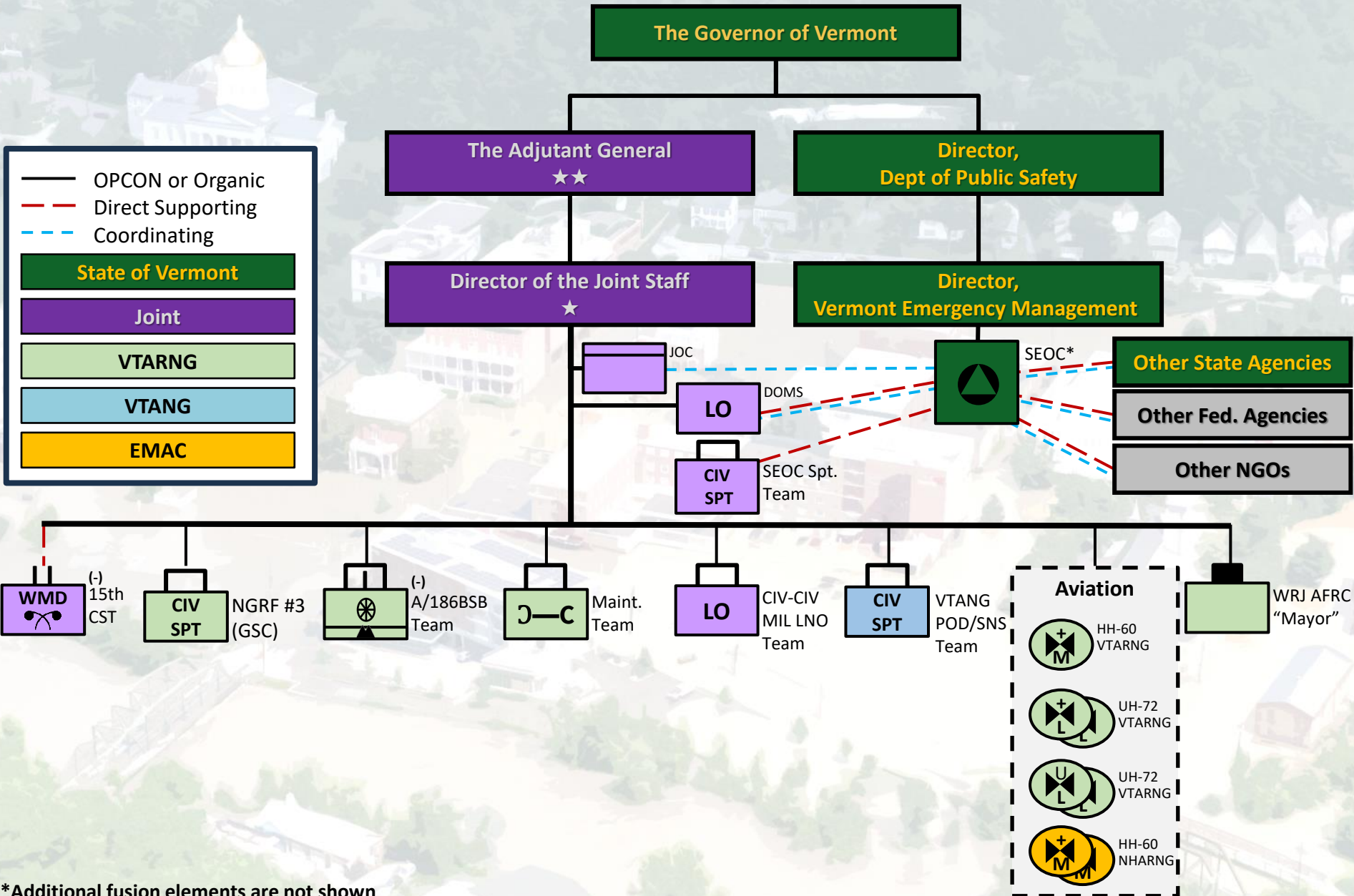


- [Drone video of various Vermont communities](#) (Credit: Vermont Public)
- [UH-72 Lakota \[Helicopter\] video of Montpelier, VT](#) (Credit: Senior Master Sgt. Michael Davis, Vermont National Guard)

Task Organization (Non-Date Specific)

— OPCON or Organic
 - - - Direct Supporting
 - - - Coordinating

State of Vermont
Joint
VTARNG
VTANG
EMAC



*Additional fusion elements are not shown

Response Timeline

09JUL2023

16JUL2023

23JUL2023

30JUL2023

National Guard Reaction Force (NGRF)

Aviation

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Municipalities Liaisons (MIL CIV-CIV LNOs)

Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Warehouse and Distribution Team(s)

Logistics/Transportation Team

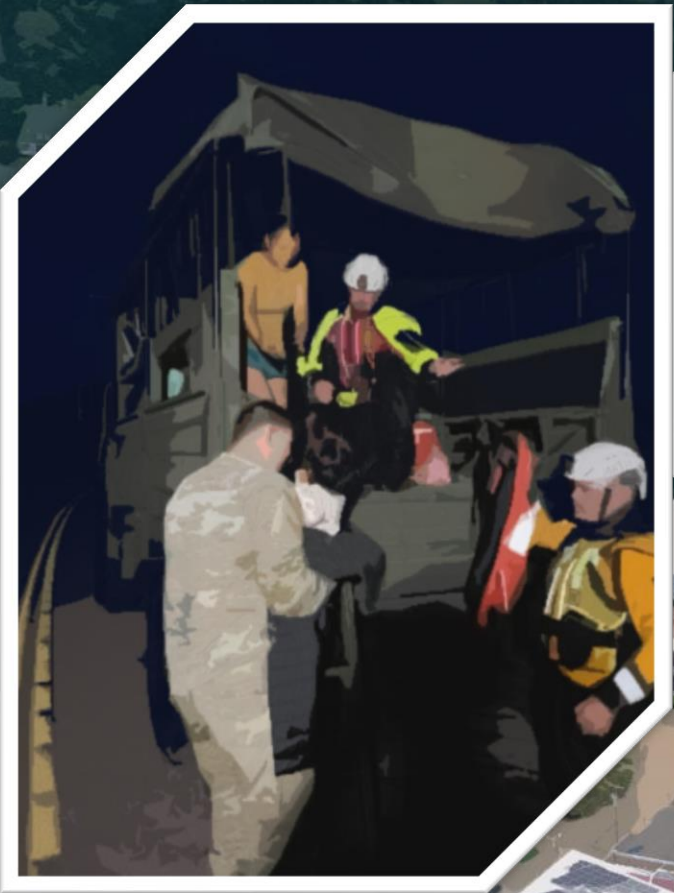
Various Support Elements (through mid-August):
Joint Operations Center (JOC), Director of Military Support (DOMS) to State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), SEOC Vacancies, Armories, and Maintenance.

15th Civil Support Team (15th CST) [Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT)] Team (Full Time Unit)

INCIDENT

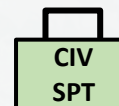
RESPONSE

RECOVERY



The National Guard Reaction Force (NGRF) was activated a day after the incident in direct support to Vermont Urban Search and Rescue (VT US&R). The NGRF provided support to VT US&R to cover a gap in their capacity (high wheel-base vehicles) assisting in the rescue of 31 community members and two pets.

[Video Link](#)



NGRF #3(GSC)



Vermont Army National Guard (VTARNG) aviation was activated for several missions in support of incident assessment and support to Vermont Urban Search and Rescue (VT US&R). Due to a lack of available & trained hoist we did request two and later one Blackhawk Medium Helicopter (HH-60) w/ hoist from the New Hampshire Army National Guard (NHARNG). In support of this event we flew over 47 flight-hours.



HH-60
VTARNG



UH-72
VTARNG



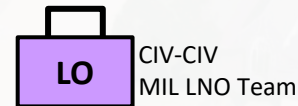
UH-72
VTARNG



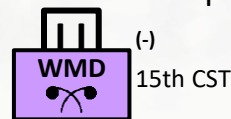
HH-60
NHARNG



The Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) requested deployment of military liaisons (LNOs) between the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Municipalities (CIV-CIV LNOs). This is not the specific role these LNOs are trained or intended for (MIL-MIL or MIL-CIV LNOs) but they addressed a gap in the intended function of the SEOC's local liaison program (matching resources to communities requires accurate reporting). This team contacted 132 of the 256 municipalities in Vermont.



Elements from the 15th Civil Support Team (15th CST) were in direct support to the VT HAZMAT team for the duration of the event, per their standard operating procedures. They additionally provided communications support to our response elements.



Vermont Department of Health (VDH) was authorized by FEMA to use the Department of Health Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for flooding recovery (support for PPE to Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and municipalities, mold health mitigation). VDH lacked an adequate staff to address the anticipated surge and warehouse and distribution site staff we brought on-board.



VTANG POD/SNS
Team

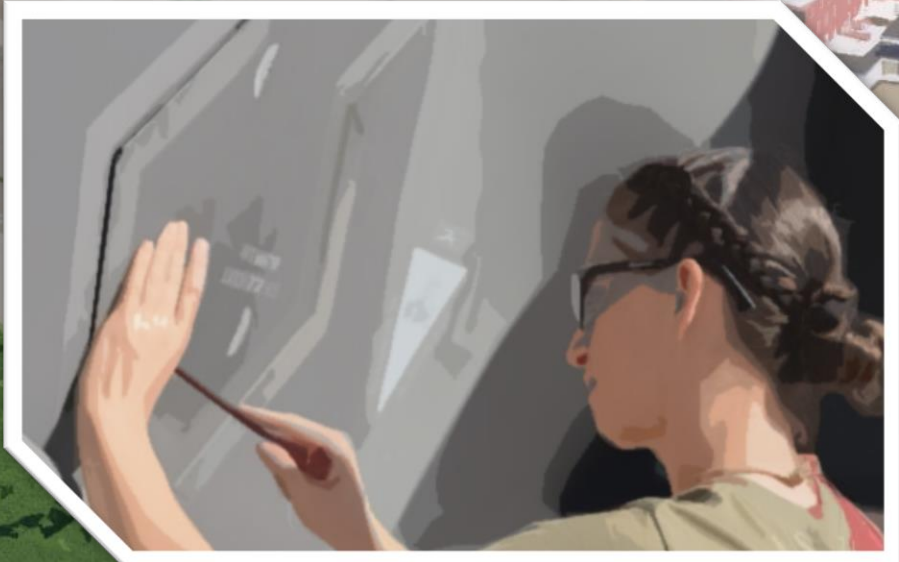


Elements from A Company 186th Brigade Support Battalion were activated to form a logistics/transportation team throughout the response for bulk and palletized commodity movement. They distributed 7,000 cases of water, 36,000 gallons of bulk water, and various other commodities.



(-) A/186 BSB
Team





The Vermont National Guard (VTNG) activated multiple support elements for specific needs during this incident:

- Our Joint Operations Center (JOC) to a “tier-2 minus”.
- The Director of Military Support (DOMS) to the State Emergency Support Center (SEOC), and element of the Department of Public Safety.
- Multiple support staff to the SEOC to fill staffing gaps with our interagency partners.
- A support site in the White River Junction (WRJ) Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) to support federal Urbans Search and Rescue (US&R) swift water rescue teams.
- ...and a maintenance team.



JOC



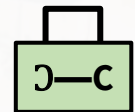
DOMS



SEOC Spt. Team



WRJ AFRC
“Mayor” Cell



Maint Team

An aerial photograph of a wide river valley. The river flows through the center, with dense green forests on both banks. In the distance, rolling mountains are visible under a hazy sky. The foreground shows the rooftops of some buildings.

QUESTIONS -and- CLOSING