

Situation Report: Louisiana Flooding, March 2016

Situation Report – (period covered: March 9-14, 2016)

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Situation Overview

Background

At least four deaths have been reported in Louisiana amid the flooding that began last week, and the National Guard has rescued nearly 3,300 residents. On March 9, Governor Edwards declared a state of emergency for 16 parishes; Acadia, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, East Carroll, Grant, Lincoln, Morehouse, Ouachita, Red River, Richland, Union, Webster, West Carroll. On March 10, he amended that declaration to include the entire state. ([source](#)) Embedded video and header photo is Bossier Golden Meadows Subdivision courtesy of Michael White - Drone Flight/Cinematography/Editing. Tori Rainey - Still Photography/Editing. ([source](#))

Significant Updates (most recent first)

Mar 14

- 11:39 am Currently, the Louisiana National Guard (LANG) has 1,197 Guardsmen assisting with emergency flood operations (769 State Active Duty). These operations could include evacuations, search and rescue, distribution and supply of water and meals, security and shelter support, and distribution of sandbags and sandbag-filling machines. The LANG has liaison officer teams in 15 Parishes: Bossier, Beauregard, Claiborne, Caldwell, Calcasieu Caddo, Grant, Franklin, Livingston, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Richland, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington, and Vernon. ([source](#))
- Initial reports indicate that more than 4,958 homes in Louisiana were damaged, according to the governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. ([source](#))
- Red Cross shelters are open in Caddo, Grant, La Salle, Livingston, Ouachita, Red River, and Tangipahoa parishes. ([source](#))
- Due to flooding, DOTD and the [Mississippi Department of Transportation](#) announce that Interstate 59 and Interstate 10 in south Louisiana/Mississippi may close today. The closures will affect I-59 at the Louisiana state line and Interstate 10 in Hancock County. ([source](#))
- Emergency officials in Louisiana and Mississippi are watching the rise of the Pearl River which divides the two states. The National Weather Service predicts the Pearl could reach 21 feet by Monday afternoon — the height of the 1983 flood. This could mean 100 to 200 homes will take on water around Pearlinton, Mississippi. In Louisiana, St. Tammany Parish officials say the town of Pearl River in the eastern part of the parish is already seeing some flooding in one neighborhood. Farther to the south, officials are warning residents in eastern Slidell to be vigilant about rising water Monday. ([source](#))
- Bossier Parish - South Bossier Parish continues to have major flooding issues, and about 30 roads are still closed or partially closed. The Fire Department and the National Guard are out with boats and high water vehicles. ([source](#))

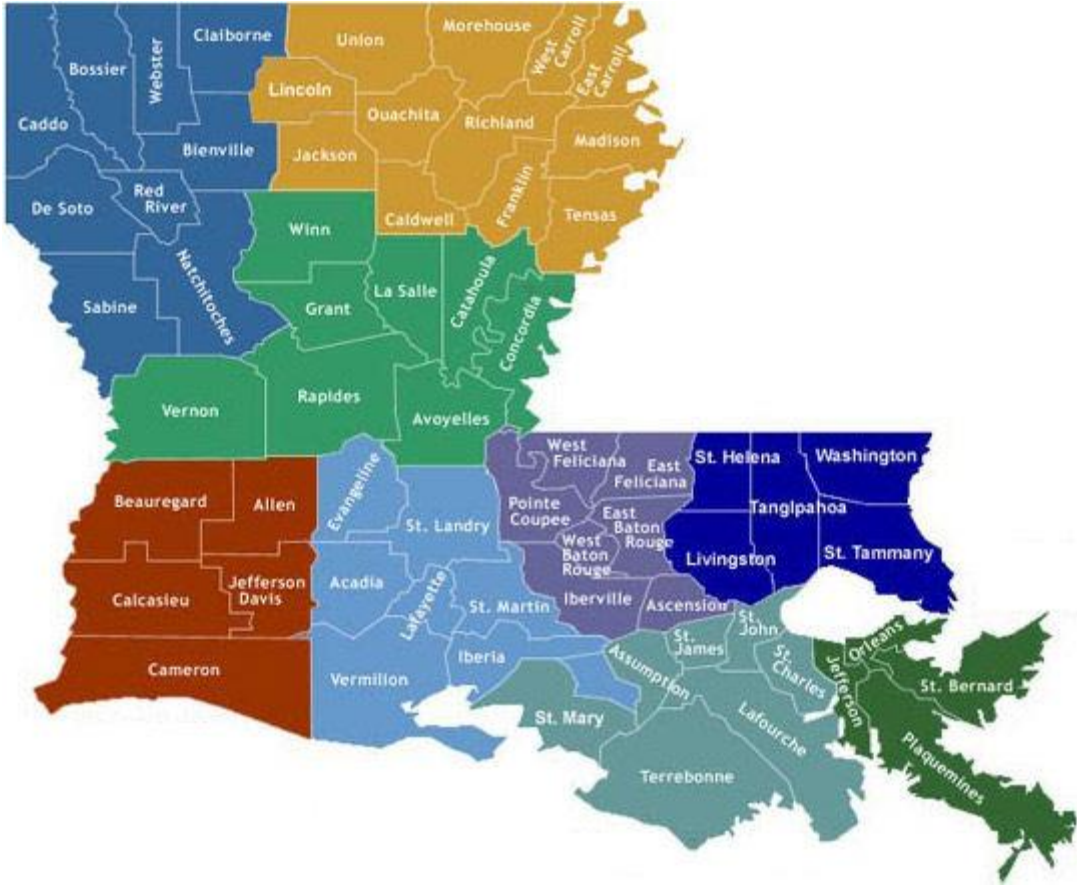
Mar 13

- Morehouse Parish - About 200 houses have been affected, and more than 1,000 people have been displaced. Sheriff Tubbs says the sheriff's office is working closely with the National Guard, providing shuttle services to those in flooded areas, as well as helping deliver medical supplies as well. ([source](#))
- Beauregard Parish - 200 houses and 200 trailers are underwater in Merryville. ([source](#))

Use Right Click - to open links in a new window

National and Regional Links

State of Emergency Declared for Louisiana [Proclamation](#)
 Louisiana State <http://emergency.louisiana.gov/>
 Governor's Ofc. of Homeland Security & Emerg Prep [@GOHSEP](#)
 Road Status: [511.org](#)
 National Weather Service River Forecast Center at: www.srh.noaa.gov/lmrfc.
 Parish Links: <http://gohsep.la.gov/ABOUT/PARISHPA>
 Louisiana State Police [Website](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)
 Louisiana 211 <http://www.louisiana211.org/>
 Google Public Alerts <http://www.google.org/publicalerts/map>



Parish Links

[Acadia Parish](#)

General Situation: Acadia government websites do not have social media accounts.

Social Media (i.e. website, facebook, twitter)

[Acadia Parish Facebook: Page](#)

[Acadia website](#)

Videos

Mar 10 local flooding in Acadia Parish ([source](#))

[Ascension Parish](#)

General Situation: Mar 14 - Ascension Parish Emergency Action Statement video. Damage assessment teams are deploying. We encourage residents to notify us of homes and businesses impacted. To help with this assessment you can email us detailed information including address contact info and photos to Flood@APgov.us to help us document these damages. Alternatively, you can also call our EOC at 225-621-8360. Sandbags are available, bring your own shovel and bag your own sand. Very few pre-filled will be available. Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter for updates. ([source](#))

Shelters: Mar 14 Shelters are not open at this time: [Source](#)

Sandbags: Multiple Sandbag Pickup Locations: [Source](#)

Social Media Accounts:

Ascension OHSEP Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AscensionOHSEP>

Ascension OHSEP [Facebook page](#)

Website: <http://www.ascensionparish.net/>

Videos and Status:

- Mar 14 Multiple Closed Roads: As of 3-14 @ 0730: [Source](#)
- Mar 13 [Flooding of Bayou Manchac Galvez, LA 3/13/2016](#) (civilian)
- Mar 12 [Emergency Action Statement March 12](#)
- Mar 11 [Emergency Action Statement March 11](#)

[Beauregard Parish](#)

General Situation:

Mar 13

- 200 houses and 200 trailers underwater in Merryville. ([source](#))
- Beauregard Parish Schools open Monday except Merryville HS which will resume a normal schedule Tuesday. ([source](#))
- Water service has been suspended in western parts of the parish. ([source](#))

Mar 9

- Beauregard declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Social Media:

[Beauregard Parish Facebook page](#) (not active)

[@BeauregardNews](#) (not covering flood)

Videos:

Mar 14 [Drone footage, Merryville](#)

Mar 13 [Sabine River flooding and Merryville](#)

Shelters:

Mar 12 Red Cross shelter - Merryville Recreation Center, 30245 Pine Street, Merryville, LA 70653
([source](#))

[Bossier Parish](#)

General Situation:

Mar 14

- Samaritan's Purse is deploying to West Monroe ([source](#))
- Highway 71 is flooded for miles and limited to boat traffic only. With the federal declaration, Bossier Parish qualifies for both individual assistance and public assistance. FEMA will soon deploy Disaster Survivor Assistance Teams (DSAT) to begin registration of those who are eligible. Approximately 300 homes have been flooded since the rains began Tuesday and about 1,000 rescues have been carried out. ([source](#))

Mar 13

- Bossier Parish has been approved for federal aid. ([source](#))

Mar 9

- Bossier declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Social Media Accounts:

[Bossier Parish Police Jury Facebook page](#)

Email: bbaker@bossierparishla.gov, Telephone: 1-800-621-3362

Videos and status:

Bossier Sheriff ([Facebook](#))

Bossier Parish flooded ([Facebook photo](#))

Bossier Golden Meadows Subdivision under water ([Source](#))

Bossier Community College is reopening Mar 14 ([source](#))

Youtube Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7I_Sj9bl6oM&feature=youtu.be

[Caddo Parish](#)

General Situation:

Mar 14

- Several roads still closed and a flood warning remains in effect until Monday March 14 @ 2:00pm CDT: [Source1](#) [Source2 \(Road Closures\)](#) [Source3\(Warning\)](#)
- Several Closed Roads: [Source](#) Updated as of March 14 @ 1:00pm CDT
- 24-Hour Sandbag Location: [Source](#)

- March 9 Bossier declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Social Media:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CaddoParishLA>

School System Twitter (With flood closing updates): <https://twitter.com/CaddoSchooLs>

Sheriff Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cpsO>

Sheriff Website: <http://www.caddosheriff.org/>

Caddo Alert Center Website / RSS Subscription: <http://www.caddo.org/AlertCenter.aspx>

Videos:

March 10: "Massive flooding in south Caddo Parish after receiving 20+ inches of rain in 2 days. Video shows the southern part of the parish including I-49, Wallace Lake, and Linwood Ave. Be safe out there!!": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2Jm1PdRbQo>

Shelters:

Mar 14 Red Cross shelter - Southern University Shreveport, 3050 Martin Luther King Junior Dr, Shreveport, LA 71107 (open as of Mar 14). ([source](#))

[Caldwell Parish](#)

Shelters:

Mar 14 Red Cross shelter - Caldwell Parish Community Center, 6539 US-165, Duty Ferry, LA (open as of Mar 14). ([source](#))

[Claiborne Parish](#)

General Situation:

Mar 14

- No updates in social media from local officials. Most recent photos of flooding are from March 9 ([source](#)). Most recent [Road Closures](#) as of March 9th
- Claiborne Parish schools are open March 14. ([source](#))

Mar 13

- Claiborne Parish has been approved for federal aid ([source](#))

Mar 9

- Claiborne declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))
- Most recent [Road Closures](#) as of March 9th

Claiborne Parish [Website](#)

Claiborne Parish Schools [FaceBook](#)

Homer [Mar 9 Photos](#)

Haynesville <http://www.haynesvillela.org/>

[Grant Parish](#)

General Situation:

- Mar 14 All schools in the Parish are closed. No other updates currently being shared on social media (March 14th, 1:30cdt)
- Mar 13 Grant Parish was approved for federal aid on March 13. ([source](#))
- Mar 9 Grant Parish declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Social Media: None

[Sheriff's Office](#)

[School Board](#)

Shelters:

Mar 14 Red Cross shelter - Grant Civic Center, 1290 Main St, Colfax, LA (open as of Mar 14). ([source](#))

[La Salle Parish](#)

Shelters:

- Red Cross shelter - First Baptist Church of Olla, 3153 Elm St, Olla, LA (open as of Mar 14). ([source](#))

- Red Cross shelter - East Jena Baptist Church, 1220 Pepper St, Jena, LA (open as of Mar 14).

([source](#))

- Red Cross shelter - First Baptist Church of Jena, 2725 E Oak St, Jena, LA (open as of Mar 14).

([source](#))

[Livingston Parish](#)

Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e16xfniZyl8> (mg)

Shelters:

- Red Cross shelter - First United Methodist Church of Denham Springs, 319 Mattie St, Denham Springs, LA (open as of Mar 14). ([source](#))

[Morehouse Parish](#)

General Situation: Mar 13 - So far, 200 houses have been affected, and more than 1,000 people have been displaced. Sheriff Tubbs says the sheriff's office is working closely with the National Guard, providing shuttle services to those in flooded areas, as well as helping deliver medical supplies as well.

([source](#))

Mar 14

- Mar 14 - closed roads. ([source](#))
- Mar 14 - schools closed till Mar 28. ([source](#))

Mar 13

- Approved for federal aid ([source](#))
- Water slowly receding. ([source](#))

Mar 12

- According to the Parish Sheriff, about 200 houses in water and 1,000 people displaced. Residents north of Bastrop trapped in neighborhood. National Guard delivering oxygen and medications. ([source](#))

Mar 10

- Morehouse Parish Sheriff's Office has been doing boat and high water vehicle rescues since yesterday afternoon. The Louisiana National Guard is providing high water vehicles for these rescues and has four more enroute to the parish. ([source](#))

Mar 9 - Morehouse Parish declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Social Media:

[@DailyEnterprise](#) (community paper in Bastrop, LA)

[Bastrop Daily Enterprise Facebook page](#)

[Morehouse Parish Sheriff's Office Facebook page](#)

Videos:

[Morehouse Parish Flooding \(news video\)](#)

Shelters

Mar 14

- Elisha Ministries 318-251-1233. (Housing assistance for homeless and/or mentally ill. No children without adult over 21 and no one over 65). ([source](#))
- Mar 12 First Baptist Church's, Family Life Center in Bastrop at 620 E. Madison Ave. (was open as shelter as of March 12). ([source](#))

[Ouachita Parish](#)

General Situation:

- Mar 14 Samaritans Purse is deploying to West Monroe ([source](#))
- Mar 14 0800 The Town & Country NO ACCESS order signed by the OPPJ is still in effect and is being enforced. Consideration was being given to escorting residents in to retrieve medication and essential personal items, but changing water conditions overnight has forced the cancellation of that plan. ([source](#))
- Mar 13 Approved for federal aid ([source](#))
- Mar 9 Ouachita Parish declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Website <http://www.opso.net/>

Sheriffs Office Twitter <https://twitter.com/OuachitaSheriff>

Sheriffs Office FaceBook <https://www.facebook.com/OuachitaParishSheriffsOffice>

Mar 14 Video of flooded farm in Ouachita Parish ([source](#))

Mar 14 Photo US 165 between Monroe and Bastrop is still flooded ([source](#))

Mar 14 FaceBook flood page for Ouachita Parish ([source](#))

Mar 13 Video Aerial footage of flooding across Ouachita parish ([source](#))

Shelters:

Red Cross shelter - St Andrew's United Methodist Church, 143 Church St, Sterlington, LA (open as of Mar 14). ([source](#))

[Red River Parish](#)

General Situation:

- Mar 9 Red River Parish declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Shelters:

Red Cross shelter, Grand Bayou Resort Center, 5286 LA 784, Coushatta, LA (open as of Mar 14). ([source](#))

[Richland Parish](#)

General Situation:

Mar 13

- Approved for federal aid ([source](#))
- There was a levee overtopping near Hebert on Sunday Night forcing a Mandatory Evacuation. ([source](#))
- [School Board](#): All schools closed monday

Mar 9

- Richland Parish declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Shelters:

- Mar 10 Rayville Civic Center, 706 Louisa St., Rayville, La. 71269 ([source](#))

Updates:

- Mar 14 Spoil Bank Ruptures ([source](#))
- Mar 14 Residents in Richland Parish town evacuating after dam break ([source](#))

[Saint Tammany Parish](#)

General Situation

Mar 14

- Due to flooding, DOTD and the [Mississippi Department of Transportation](#) announce that Interstate 59 and Interstate 10 in south Louisiana/Mississippi may close today. The closures will affect I-59 at the Louisiana state line and Interstate 10 in Hancock County. ([source](#))
 - The Flood Warning continues for the following rivers in Louisiana... Bogue Chitto River At Franklinton affecting Washington Parish Bogue Chitto River Near Bush affecting St. Tammany Parish The Flood Warning continues for The Bogue Chitto River Near Bush. ([source](#))
- Mar 13: Pearl River City recommended citizens living along Shingle Mill Road evacuate by 3 p.m. ([source](#))

Mar 13

- Water has been rising all morning, and some streets have already been barricaded, McQueen said. Interstate 59's Exit 5 at Pump Slough Road also has been closed. ([source](#))

Mar 12

- Sandbags are available for pickup at the Fritchie Barn at 63119 Louisiana 1090 in Pearl River until 7 p.m. St. Tammany Parish Government has made sand available to anyone who wishes to make their own sandbags at the Levee Board Building in Slidell located at 61134 North Military Road. ([source](#))

Shelters: During this weekend's flooding near Covington, Covington High School was used as a shelter and Lyon Elementary sustained some water damage in some classrooms.

Schools:

March 14 [St Tammany Schools](#)

Closed ([source](#))

Multiple sandbag locations: ([Source](#))

Social Media accounts (i.e. website, facebook, twitter)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sttammanyparish>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/STPGOV>

Website: <http://stpgov.org/>

GoogleAlerts: [St. Tammany Parish](#)

City of Slidell: <https://twitter.com/CityofSlidell>

Videos and updates:

Mar 14 I10 between Slidell and Mississippi state line flooded ([source](#)) Mar 14 Video of I59 Pearl River - water approaching highway ([source](#))

Mar 14 Wild boar stuck in the moving waters on I59 [video](#)

Mar 14 Slidell proper "dodged the bullet" ([source](#))

Mar 13 City of Pearl River: Sandbagging and under evacuation ([source](#))

Mar 13 Covington: Household goods are available at [New Zion Baptist Church Covington](#)

Mar 12 City of Folsom: flooded <https://twitter.com/mwelch5363/status/708809916757188609>

Mar 12 Covington is under water - Video ([source](#))

[Tangipahoa Parish](#)

General Situation:

Mar 14 - Tangipahoa officials are estimating at least 1,500 homes in the parish have been damaged by flood waters, with half of those receiving major damage. ([Source](#))

Mar 14 - High water knocks out power to 1,200 in Tangipahoa Parish([Source](#))

Mar 14 - Schools: Open March 15 ([Source](#))

Mar 14 - Road Closures Multiple ([Source](#) @ 16:33)

Mar 14 - The parish government along with the Tangipahoa Parish Government's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness are asking residents who received flood damage inside of their homes to contact their damage assessment teams. ([Source](#))

Mar 12 - Residents will need to provide residential information as well as any pictures of the water damage.

You can contact the parish government's assessment teams by calling 985-748-3211 or emailing stormdamage@Tangipahoa.org. ([Source](#))

Mar 12 -About 2,700 people have been rescued in Tangipahoa Parish. ([Source](#))

Social Media:

Website: <http://www.tangipahoa.org/>

Videos:

Mar 12 - [Flooded areas along Interstate 12 in both Tangipahoa and St. Tammany Parishes](#)

Shelters:

Red Cross shelter - Eagle Heights Church, 47318 Rufus Bankston Rd, Tickfaw, LA (open as of Mar 14). [\(source\)](#)

- Red Cross shelter - Shell Robert Training Center, 23260 Shell Lane, Robert, LA (open as of Mar 14). [\(source\)](#)

Washington Parish

General Situation: Clean up has begun for a lot of you now that the rivers are receding please make sure that you report your flood damage to Washington Parish OHSEP at 985-839-0434 [Source](#)

Mar 14

- Citizens can seek shelter in Franklinton at the Franklinton High School and in Bogalusa at the Elizabeth Sullivan Memorial Church on Avenue B.
- Washington Parish citizens can pick up sandbags at the Washington Parish jail.
- Sheriff Seal is urging Washington Parish residents to stay off the roads today. There is still debris and water on the roadways.
- Multiple roads currently closed including LA1072 @ Springhill, LA 16 West of LA 1072 (bridge closed until inspected) and Hwy 437 from St. Tammany Parish line to Enon [Source](#) Road Washouts [Road Washouts](#) Road closures and detours can be found using the Louisiana Traveler Information System through several different methods including the 511 phone system, www.511la.org
- Please report washed out roads and bridges in our parish By using Facebook to report, It helped with a faster process of assessment and to begin the repair by our crews .[facebook](#)
- Choctaw Landfill Phones are out but the Landfill is open for business. Hours of business 7am to 5pm Please share this information as the cleanup begins lots of people are trying to get to the Landfill.

Social Media (i.e. website, facebook, twitter)

Washington Parish Government [facebook](#)

Website <http://wpsola.gov/>

Mar 11

- Red Cross officials remind people to bring to the shelter prescriptions and emergency medications, identification to show residence in affected areas, extra clothing, supplies for children and infants and chargers for electronic devices. Residents should also remember that there is still a threat of more severe weather through the rest of the week. People should take proper safety precautions and avoid flooded roadways. [Source](#)
- Shelters [Source](#)
 - Franklinton High School, 1 Demon Circle, Franklin
 - Elizabeth Sullivan University Methodist Church, 510 Avenue B, Bogalusa

[Webster Parish](#)

General Situation:

Mar 14 Schools are closed Monday and will reopen on Tuesday ([source](#))

Mar 13 Approved for federal aid. ([source](#))

Mar 9 Webster Parish declared State of Emergency by Gov John Bell Edwards ([source](#))

Mar 12 Road closures: ([source](#)) *March 12th*

Social Media:

Visit Webster: [Web](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

[Webster Parish School Board](#)

Videos:

- [Flooding in Doyline, LA, Mar 14.](#)

Airports

Flights and Airport Status: No reported delays or closures.

Communications

Amateur Radio

[Louisiana ARES](#)

[Central Louisiana Amateur Radio Club](#)

Other Communications

[ITDRC](#) has activated 2 of their Satellite CARES partners in LA, and mobilized an Assessment Team to Bossier Parish on Saturday. They have conducted needs assessments in a 50 mile radius the last couple of days, and are moving East to Monroe this afternoon to assess that area.

Red Cross

Offices & Contact Information

[Louisiana Region](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

[Local Chapters](#)

Twitter

Hashtags:

Official event hashtag: #LAFlood #LAWx

Other important hashtags: Use parish or town names

Animals in Disaster

Animal Shelters

While the HSL and the LSART are providing disaster relief to people and their animals, the two agencies are requesting people report any animals in danger to their [parish Office of Emergency Preparedness](#).

Organizations Rescuing or Accepting Animals

Mar 14

- The [Humane Society of Louisiana](#) is asking residents this week to report any animals that may be in danger as several parishes deal with flooding in the state. Officials said the HSL is receiving a high volume of calls relating to companion and large animals trapped by floodwaters in multiple parishes. ([source](#))
- Bossier Parish - [Bossier City Animal Control](#) is providing temporary shelter for displaced pets. BCAC has space for more evacuees and no one will be turned away This service is free of charge and must show ID stating you are a Bossier parish resident. For those with immediate, disaster-caused needs Please call 318-741-8499 to make arrangements. ([source](#))
- Tangipahoa Parish - [Tangi Humane Society](#) in Hammond, LA is helping rescued horses and displaced pets.
- St Tammany Parish - [St Tammany Humane Society](#), 20384 Harrison Ave, Covington, Louisiana is providing shelter for lost and displaced pets during the flooding.