



# OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

## MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION

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[www.mfc.ms.gov](http://www.mfc.ms.gov)

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MFC Employee Serves on Hurricane Harvey Incident Management Team**

*JACKSON, Miss.* - On Monday, August 28, 2017, Mississippi Forestry Commission (MFC) employee Bill Kitchings (MFC Outreach Officer, Region 2) deployed to Texas as a member of the 2017 Southern Area Blue Team, a National Type-1 All-Hazard Incident Management Team. Mr. Kitchings will work with the team, which includes several other Mississippians, to fill the role of Supply Unit Leader. The Incident Management Team will assist state and federal partners with Hurricane Harvey disaster relief.

“We are extremely proud of Mr. Kitchings for going above and beyond the call of duty to help our Texas neighbors in need during this catastrophic event,” said Charlie Morgan, State Forester.

All-Hazard Incident Management Teams are interagency teams deployed to respond, manage, and enhance ongoing state and federal operations during a natural disaster or emergency situation.

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### About the Mississippi Forestry Commission

Established in 1926, the Mississippi Forestry Commission (MFC) protects the state’s valuable forest resources from wildfire, manages approximately 480,000 acres of forested School Trust Land, and delivers quality forest management services and assistance to both rural and urban landowners. Our mission is to provide active leadership in forest protection, forest management, forest inventory, and effective forest information distribution, necessary for Mississippi’s sustainable forest-based economy. The MFC looks forward to the continued privilege of caring for Mississippi’s trees, forests, and natural resources.

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Bill Kitchings, MFC Outreach Officer, Region 2