



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Mobile GLO office sets up at Jamaica Beach

Questions about 4.5-foot line, FEMA buyouts, permits and more get answers

AUSTIN — Coastal homeowners with questions about the 4.5-foot line of elevation, FEMA buyouts or other permitting issues can get answers at the General Land Office's mobile Hurricane Response Information Unit, which will be on scene in Galveston February 3, 4, 5 and 6 at Jamaica Beach City Hall, 16628 San Luis Pass Road, Jamaica Beach.

“Having this mobile command post pull up in the neighborhood means help is on the way for coastal home owners,” said Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office. “It will be as if the Land Office has set up shop in their backyard, ready to answer questions about permits and rebuilding.”

The Land Office's Hurricane Response Information Unit will set up shop from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The unit will be staffed with Land Office coastal experts ready to answer questions and armed with handouts, maps and other valuable information.

Deployment of the Hurricane Response Information Unit is just the latest effort by Patterson to help coastal homeowners rebuild after Ike. Last year, Patterson released GLO Earth, a Google Earth-based application that shows how the upper Texas coast looked before and after Ike. GLO Earth also shows where the new 4.5-foot line of elevation is, making crucial information easily available for coastal property owners, wherever they may be.

This line — which marks where the elevation is 4.5-feet above mean sea level — will be used to determine where new construction is allowed on the coast. As additional surveys are done on the ground, this 4.5-foot elevation line will be shown on GLO Earth for the rest of the Upper Texas Coast that was impacted by Ike.

GLO Earth is available on CD or on-line on the GLO Hurricane Response page at www.GLO.state.tx.us at the Hurricane Ike Shoreline Assessment link. PDF maps of the 4.5-foot line, by neighborhood, are also available there.

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