

# Hurricane Preparedness Commission Workshop

May 19, 2020

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# Storm Preparation and Restoration Process

- Mutual aid agreements
  - Coordinated through FECA
- Potential roadway congestion
  - FECA work with FHP
- Fuel availability
  - FECA coordinate with Seminole/Foster Fuels
- Lodging
  - GCEC personnel to secure hotel rooms
  - If hotel rooms are unavailable, sleep tents and trailers available through Storm Services

# Stakeholder Outreach and Communication

- Meetings with EOCs
  - Co-op in attendance
- Staffing assignments
  - Employee assigned to each EOC
- Messaging to members on storm preparation/restoration
  - Florida Currents monthly member magazine articles
  - Co-op Facebook page
    - Employees of other co-ops outside of our immediate area are backup admins in the event of a communications failure in our area.

# Vegetation Management

- Current trimming cycles
  - Five-year rotation for our roughly 2,600 miles of distribution line
- 2019 trimming results
  - Cut more than 1,000 miles in response to Hurricane Michael
  - Removal of danger trees

# Pole Inspections

- Current inspection cycles
  - Eight-year cycle by substation and distribution feeders
- 2019 inspection results
  - 23,798 poles inventoried
  - 110 poles replaced (0.5%)
  - More than 3,000 poles were replaced in 2018 due to Hurricane Michael. An additional 63 were replaced in 2019 due to storm damage.

# Lessons Learned

- Third-party agreements
  - All contracts and purchasing procedures are required to comply with the federal purchasing guidelines. These are very detailed and require prior legal review.
- Communication improvements
  - Tower installed at Southport office post-Hurricane Michael. Allows for internet access and telephone and radio service through PowerSouth Energy Cooperative (their radio service worked throughout Hurricane Michael).
  - Secured a dozen AT&T cell phones in the event that Verizon service fails as it did following Hurricane Michael.