



Texas gets \$31M HUD grant for wildfires recovery

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The federal government has earmarked \$31 million for Texas wildfires recovery with most of the money going to devastated Bastrop County.

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan on Friday announced the Texas share as part of \$400 million in nationwide natural disaster assistance.

Community development block grants will help pay for housing, business and infrastructure needs beyond other public and private help.

HUD says at least 80 percent of the Texas grants are for the Bastrop area, 30 miles east of Austin. The drought-fed and wind-driven fire that began Labor Day weekend left two people dead and destroyed about 1,500 homes.

The Texas Forest Service says last year's wildfire season was the worst in state history, destroying nearly 4 million acres. About 3,000 homes were lost. Ten people died.

Courtesy of JB Goodwin