ABSTRACT TEXT: On August 25, 2017, hurricane Harvey slammed into Rockport, Texas as a Category 4 storm. For the next four days the storm stalled while dumping more than 40 inches of water on the upper coast gulf coast. The resulting floods in the Houston metropolitan inundated hundreds of thousands of homes, displaced more than one million people, and prompted more than 17,000 rescues. The Governor of Texas and the Federal Government declared the area a natural disaster, prompting instant government aids. For more than a week, the horrific events of the flood received continuous international and national media coverage. With crippling and crumbling infrastructure, the Governor estimated the devastation to be between $150 billion to $180 billion.

The Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD), who primary role is the value properties for the more than 500 taxing units within its jurisdiction, reacted with an organized plan of discovery that seeks to accurately quantify the value loss where it was warranted.

This paper outlines the procedures taken to identify properties impacted by the hurricane and the chain of events that occur from the date of impact to the date of valuation. It highlights the historical role of GIS in previous HCAD disaster management and the critical role it played in the Hurricane Harvey disaster review project. It also examines Texas legal disaster provisions including jurisdictions right to reappraisal and the City of Houston flood ordinance. A graphic display of the explosive construction throughout the county and their relationship to its flood plains is also illustrated.