

WEST VIRGINIA WING CONCLUDES MISSION FOR STATE

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

CLARKSBURG – West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol finished its assessment of flood damage to the eastern area of West Virginia Sunday.

The Wing flew approximately 30 man-hours taking aerial imagery of major rivers, with special emphasis on bridges, roads, and communities affected from the remnants of Hurricane Isabel. The pictures were taken by aircrews from units in Clarksburg, Morgantown, Martinsburg and Greenbrier. Pictures were then sent electronically to the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services in Charleston, WV.

"We took all the pictures that needed taken," said Lt. Col Eugene Thorn, WV Wing CAP Emergency Services Director, "and flew around everything they wanted us to fly. There were some roads underwater and reports of water around a sub-power station."

"My congratulations to all those who have participated thus far, the service to your State, and to the mission of CAP cannot be overemphasized," said Thorn.

Low-ceiling clouds and fog early in the mission did play a factor on some sorties being flown over the search area. The weather did improve later that day, and most of Sunday for the Wing to finish its mission.

Approximately 47 personnel and four aircraft were used in this two-day mission, which began on Sept. 20 The West Virginia Wing of Civil Air Patrol has 12 units and seven aircraft based around the state. The Wing has more than 650 members, and its headquarters is located near Charleston's Yeager Airport.

Civil Air Patrol, the official Air Force Auxiliary, is a nonprofit organization

with more than 63,000 members nationwide. It performs 95% of continental U.S. inland

and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center.

Volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief, and counter drug missions at

the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members take a leading role in

aerospace education and serve as mentors to the almost 27,000 young people

currently participating in CAP cadet programs.