



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

Event Name	24-0004 21JAN Severe Weather
Date	January 26, 2024
Time	10:00 AM
Operational Period	8:00 AM January 25 to 8:00 AM January 26, 2024
Report Number	4

Regions Affected

TDEM Regions Affected	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8
DDs Active	5, 6, 14, 15, 16, 17, 22

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On January 25, The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) provided an update on Texas' response to excessive rainfall and flooding in Central, East, and Southeast Texas. TDEM also urged Texans to report property damage by submitting an online damage assessment survey.

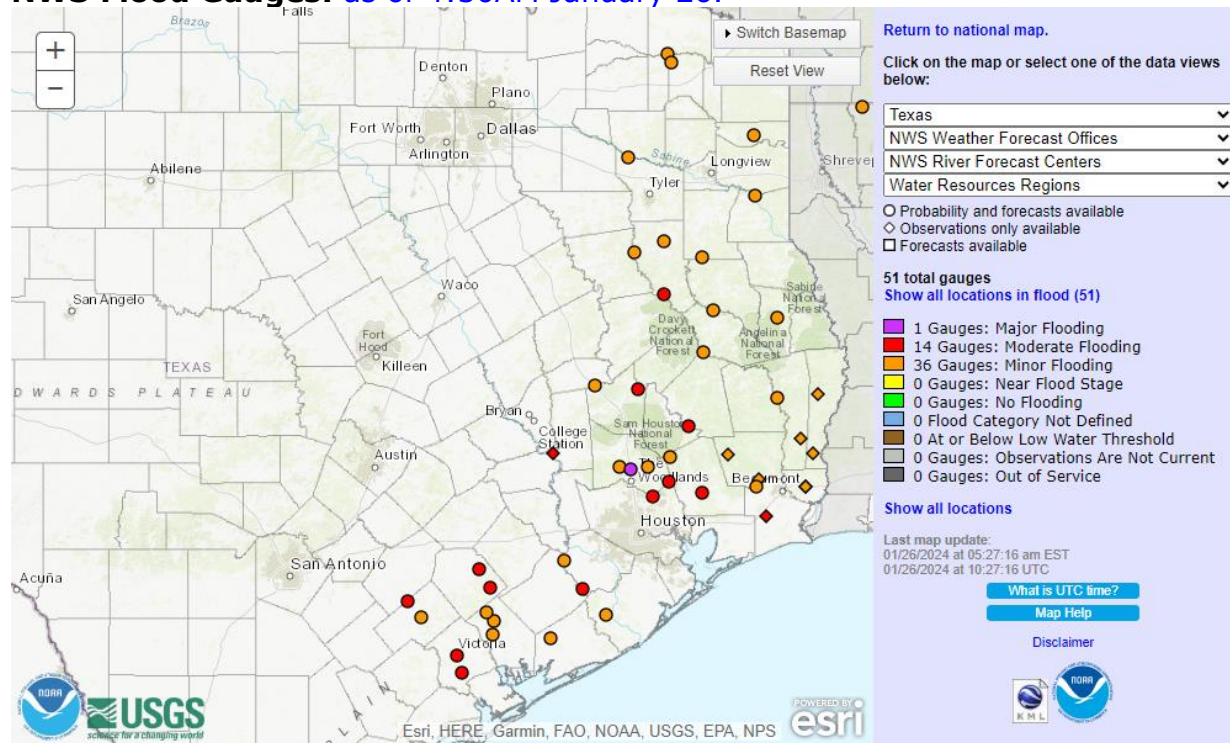
Texans can report weather damage to homes and businesses using the Individual State of Texas Assessment Tool (iSTAT) damage survey. The iSTAT damage survey can be filled out in English and Spanish online by visiting damage.tdem.texas.gov and clicking on "January 21st - Ongoing Flooding Event." The details provided to TDEM in the iSTAT damage survey help emergency management officials gain an understanding of damages that have occurred and identify any immediate resource needs. Survey information also aids officials in determining whether the state meets federal requirements for various forms of disaster assistance.

Reporting damage through the iSTAT tool is a voluntary activity and is not a substitute for reporting damage to your insurance agency. It does not guarantee disaster relief assistance. English and Spanish tutorial videos explaining how to fill out iSTAT surveys are available at <https://damage.tdem.texas.gov/>.

Texans are encouraged to remain prepared and informed, continue to monitor local weather reports, and follow instructions from local officials. Texans can access additional flood safety information by visiting www.TexasReady.gov.

While the bulk of the forecasted rain has ended, runoff is expected to continue to create moderate-to-major flood stages across Texas rivers, which could impact Texas communities and property owners. To view the latest flood gauge data visit www.TexasFlood.org.

NWS Flood Gauges: as of 4:30AM January 26.



River Flooding:

Major flood stage is being reported along the West Fork of the San Jacinto River near Conroe in Montgomery County, which has crested and is now receding.

Moderate flood stage is being reported along the Brazos, Guadalupe, Navidad, Neches, San Bernard, San Jacinto, and Trinity Rivers.

Minor flood stage is being reported along the Angelina, Guadalupe, Lavaca, Navidad, Neches, Sabine, San Bernard, San Jacinto, Sulfur, and the Tres Palacios Rivers.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 3 (Includes DDs 5, 6, 14, and 15)

DD 14 – Lufkin (Includes Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, and Tyler Counties)

Polk County: The Polk County EOC is at Level III. On January 24, the Polk County Judge issued a voluntary evacuation order for the low-lying areas along the Trinity River below Lake Livingston Dam. Locally heavy rainfall along with the increase in discharge from the dam could impact areas below the dam including roadways, impeding ingress and egress into subdivisions and residential areas.

Polk County is urging citizens in these areas to take precautions.

Region 4 (Includes DD 16)

DD 16 – Houston (Includes Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton Counties)

Harris County: The County has activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions).

[Liberty County issued a mandatory evacuation order on January 25 for the East Fork RV Resort in Cleveland. A shelter was activated at the Plum Grove Assembly of God Church in Splendora](#)

Montgomery County: The County has increased its EOC to Level I (Emergency Conditions). [Montgomery County Judge issued a Disaster Declaration on January 25](#). Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is reporting water over several roads and bridges in the county.

The Lake Conroe discharge rate was increased from 3,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 19,435 cfs which caused an influx of water into the area. Peach Creek, Caney Creek, and the East Fork of the San Jacinto River will be causing low land flooding. Areas potentially impacted include Plum Grove, Wood Branch Village, River Club Estates, and several other areas as the San Jacinto River continues to swell.

[As of 9:30 AM on January 25, the shelter at 2500 Lone Star Parkway in Montgomery remains open with no impacted residents being sheltered by the American Red Cross.](#)

[As of 11:00 PM on January 25, the San Jacinto River has crested at Interstate Highway \(IH\)-45 in Major Flood Stage and has started to recede.](#)

Region 6 (Includes DDs 17, 18, and 24)

DD 17 – Victoria (Includes Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, Jackson, and Victoria Counties)

DeWitt County: The city of Yorktown is reporting 8th and 12th Streets closed due to high water. A few other low-water crossings continue to have water over the roadways but are passable.

Lavaca County: The County OEM continues to report road closures due to flooding, also including some streets in the city of Hallettsville.

Region 8 (Includes DDs 11,12, 13 and 23)

DD 12 – Austin (Includes Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis, and Williamson Counties)

Fayette County: As of 4:00 PM on January 24 Texas DPS reported a water rescue off Josie Lane with the Fayette County Sheriff's Office and Texas Game Wardens. A man capsized his boat and was clinging to a tree.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM):

TDEM Mass Care: Mass Care was activated at the SOC.

Sheltering: Overnight, the American Red Cross had 3 shelters open in both Polk and Montgomery Counties. The San Jacinto County Disaster Center, in Polk County, reported 13 occupants overnight. Dunbar Gym (Closed) in Polk County and Lone Star Convention Center in Montgomery County reported 0 occupants overnight.

The state and VOAD partners remain on standby ready to support Mass Care services at the local level.

The Incident Support Task Force (ISTF) is also activated at the SOC with two personnel. HQ and regional staff are actively assessing the weather and communicating with locals for any unmet needs.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) / Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT): Beginning at 2:00 PM on January 25, the TX-PWRT Liaison will support and coordinate operations remotely. Standing by and monitoring WebEOC to fulfill any STAR requests for service. Strike teams are rostered, and availability is noted.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Texas Task Force 1 & 2 (TX-TF1 / TX-TF2): TEEX activated ten TX-TF1 Type III Swift Water Boat Squads, two high-profile vehicles (HPV), and two water group supervisors.

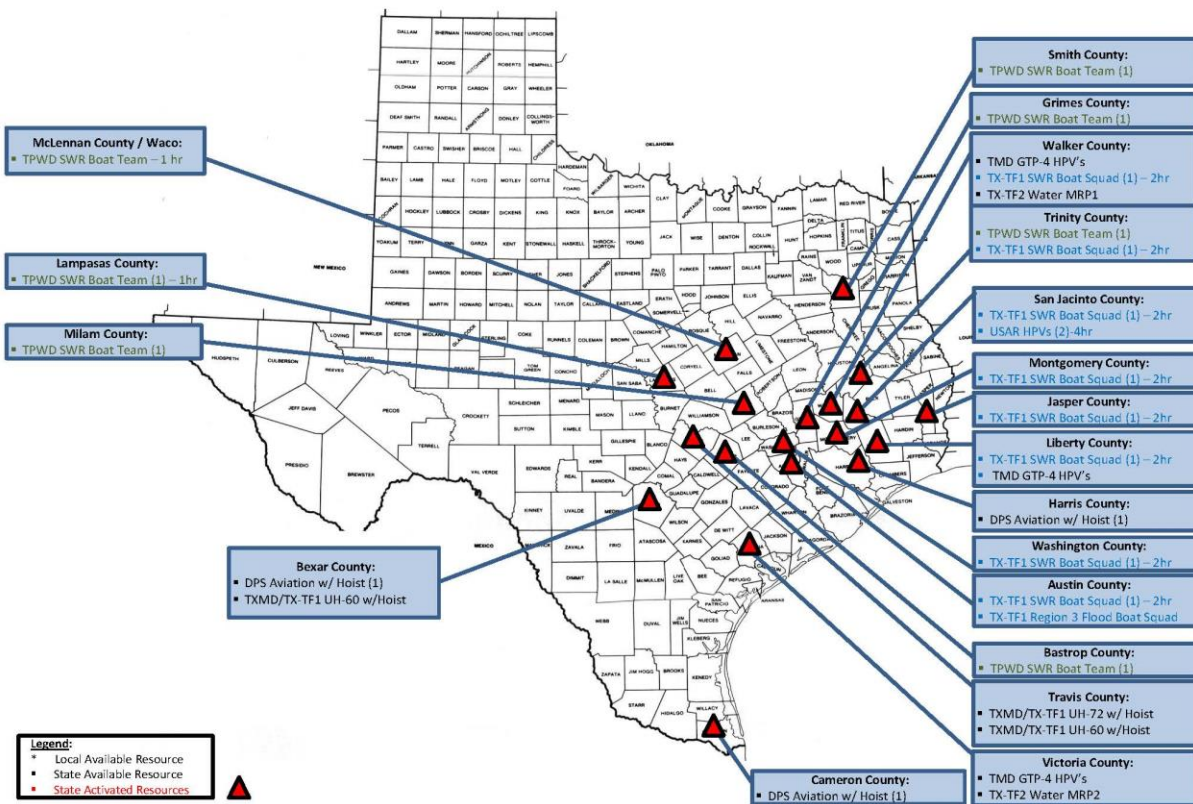
On January 24, to support TMD GTP High Profile Vehicles, TX-TF2 activated two Water Mission Ready Packages (MRPs), and TX-TF1 Region 3 activated a flood boat squad.

On January 24, TX-TF1 personnel assisted local resources throughout the state, including the evacuation of 1 adult and 2 pets from a flooded home in TDEM Region 4. There are currently 130 personnel assigned to support this activation.

On January 25, there were two vehicle rescues reported in Cleveland, Liberty County. The rescues were conducted on County Road 3812 and Farm to Market Road 1725.

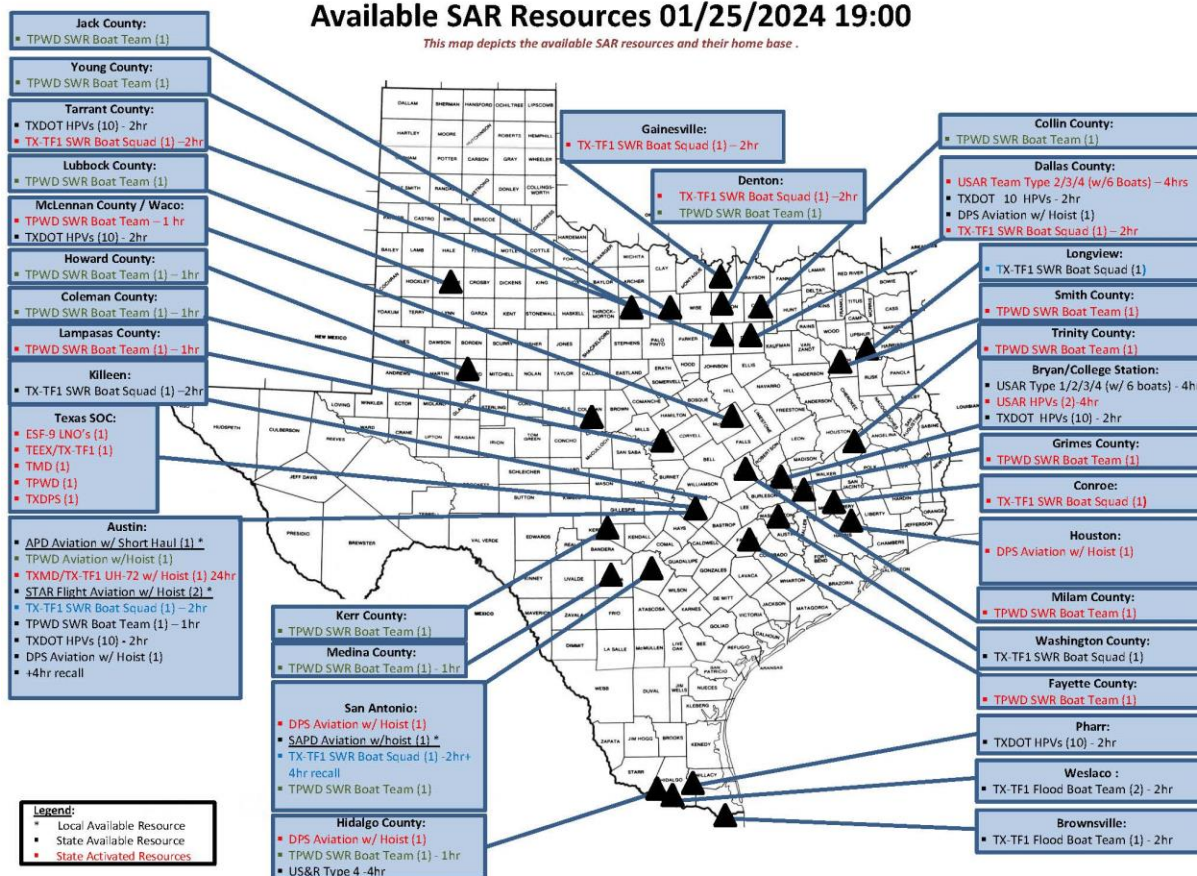
Assigned SAR Resources Location 01/25/2024 19:00

This map depicts a snapshot in time. Resource locations are fluid based on response needs. Use normal resource request process for SAR assistance.



Available SAR Resources 01/25/2024 19:00

This map depicts the available SAR resources and their home base.



Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS): TXDPS is coordinating with TX-TF1 and TMD for aviation and marine unit response.

TXDPS Aviation Operations Division (AOD) has three H-125 hoist-equipped helicopters stationed in Houston, San Antonio, and Edinburg are ready for immediate response.

The Texas Highway Patrol (THP) Tactical Marine Unit (TMU) has flat bottom boats available in the following counties: three in Hidalgo County, one in Aransas County, one in Victoria County, one in Galveston County, three in Montgomery County, one in McLennan County, and one in Medina County.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS has assigned two LNO to the SOC. The Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF):

- EMTF maintaining awareness:
 - EMTF 4 (East Texas)
 - EMTF 6 (Southeast Texas)
- EMTF Regional and Local Response Staged:
 - One AMBUS (Montgomery)

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT SOC Liaison and the EMC have been staffing the SOC since January 22.

- TxDOT is under normal operations with local shift work in impacted counties due to high water and flooding.
- TxDOT emergency management staff continue to support the SOC.
- Several TxDOT districts in the East and Southeast parts of the state had isolated reports of 10 - 12" of rain.
- Local crews monitored roads and flood prone areas overnight Wednesday into Thursday morning and assisted law enforcement with several accidents.
- Local crews continued to patrol roadways and inspect bridges and culverts across the East and Southeast, Thursday.
- A tractor-trailer carrying car engines was involved in a rollover which resulted in a HAZMAT spill and damaged the bridge rail and main lane bridge over FM 725. TCEQ and FHWA were notified and TxDOT San Antonio maintenance, bridge, and HAZMAT crews were all onsite. The Bridge Crew performed temporary repairs and are currently evaluating additional work needed. IH-10 westbound lanes reopened Thursday morning.
- FM 1791 and FM 39 east of Madisonville in the Bryan District are closed due to damage sustained from this weather event and will remain closed until repairs can be made.
- (5) HPV and (5) 2-person teams are in Bryan District; 10 additional HPVs are available if needed. (5-Austin; 5-Dallas)

Reminder: Do not attempt to go around road barriers. If a road is flooded, 'Turn Around Don't Drown.'

TxDOT is reporting roadways affected by high water due to flooding: As of 4:30 AM on January 26. (www.drivetexas.org)

Drive™ TEXAS
 TxDOT Highway Conditions

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Data Updated: 1/26/2024, 4:35 AM

Search...

Current Conditions ^

CURRENT FUTURE

- Accidents
- Closures
- Construction
- Damage
- Flood
- Other ?
- Flooding Likely ?

More Resources ^

- Traffic ?
- Rest Areas
- Travel Information ?
- Information Centers ?
- Traffic Cameras ?

External Links v

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD has activated one SOC Support Team at the SOC and three Ground Transportation Platoons to support TX-TF1. TMD has activated 48 personnel, 15 vehicles, and three aircraft. Units are staged in Huntsville, Liberty, and Victoria. [Rotary Wing Aircraft, while conducting reconnaissance operations in support of TX-TF1 assisted with the rescue of 1 adult and 2 pets near Coldspring, Texas.](#)

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): [TPWD continues to have Texas Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers prepared to respond to areas affected by the severe weather event and support boat rescue or evacuation operations as needed.](#) Also, TPWD personnel are continuing to be advised of the current weather conditions and are maintaining a state of readiness.

TPWD has activated four swift water rescue (SWR) boat teams in Central and East Texas.

Caddo Lake and Palmetto State Parks have closed areas due to flooding. Brazos Bend State Park is preparing for minor flooding.

TPWD SAR crews and field personnel have assisted with several incidents and rescues in the affected areas of the state.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM	ESF 6 Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF HQ Staff	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	VOAD	1	0	Assigned	Virtual
TEEX PWRT	SOC Liaison Remote	1	1	Assigned	College Station
TEEX PWRT	PWRT Strike Teams	16	0	Available	Statewide
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Released	Travis County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Released	Bexar County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	Nacogdoches County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	San Jacinto County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	Jasper County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	Angelina County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	Washington County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	Austin County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	Liberty County
TEEX TX-TF1	Swift Water Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	Walker County
TEEX TX-TF1	Water Group Supervisor	2	1	Assigned	TDEM Region 4
TEEX TX-TF1	Water Group Supervisor	2	1	Assigned	TDEM Region 6

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TEEX TX-TF1	HPV	7	2	Assigned	San Jacinto County
TEEX TX-TF1	ESF 9 Overhead	4	0	Assigned	Brazos County
TEEX TX-TF1	ESF 9 SOC LNO	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TEEX TX-TF1	TX-TF1 Rescue Swimmers	3	0	Assigned	Travis County
TEEX TX-TF1	TX-TF1 Rescue Swimmers	2	0	Assigned	Bexar County
TEEX TX-TF1	HSART Manager	1	0	Assigned	Brazos County
TEEX TX-TF1	TX-TF2 Water MRP	18	3	Assigned	Walker County
TEEX TX-TF1	TX-TF2 Water MRP	17	4	Assigned	Victoria County
TEEX TX-TF1	TX-TF1 Region 3 Flood Boats	6	3	Assigned	Victoria County
DSHS	SOC LNO	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TXDPS	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TXDPS	Helicopter w/hoist	9	3	Activated	Houston, San Antonio, Edinburg
TXDPS	Flat Bottom Boats	22	11	Activated	Hidalgo, Cameron, Aransas, Victoria, Galveston, Montgomery, McLennan, Medina
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC LNO	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	SOC MRP	6	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	10	5	Activated	Victoria
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	10	5	Activated	Huntsville
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	10	5	Activated	Liberty
TMD	1.5 Rotary Wing	11	3	Activated	Austin/San Antonio
TMD	Air Ops Support	1	0	Activated	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TPWD	SOC Liason	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	Game Warden SAR	14	21	Available	TPWD Regions 2,3,4,7,8
TPWD	Game Wardens-State Park Police	270	270	Available	TPWD Regions 2,3,4,7,8
TPWD	Swift Water Boats / Airboats		48	Available	TPWD Regions 2,3,4,7,8

FINAL COMMENTS: On January 22, at 12:00 PM, the SOC increased the activation level to Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) in response to the heavy rainfall and flash flooding threats for this week. The SOC will continue to provide situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at:
<https://tdem.texas.gov/response/state-operations-center#tab-3>

W. Nim Kidd, MPA, CEM

Chief – Texas Division of Emergency Management
 Vice Chancellor for Disaster and Emergency Services
 Texas A&M University System

<https://tdem.texas.gov/>

Twitter: @TDEM

(512) 424-2208 (24/7)