



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Event Name | 24-0004 21JAN Severe Weather |
| Date | January 28, 2024 |
| Time | 10:00 AM |
| Operational Period | 8:00 AM January 27 to 8:00 AM January 28, 2024 |
| Report Number | 6 |

Regions Affected

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| TDEM Regions Affected | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 |
| DDs Active | 6, 14, 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.

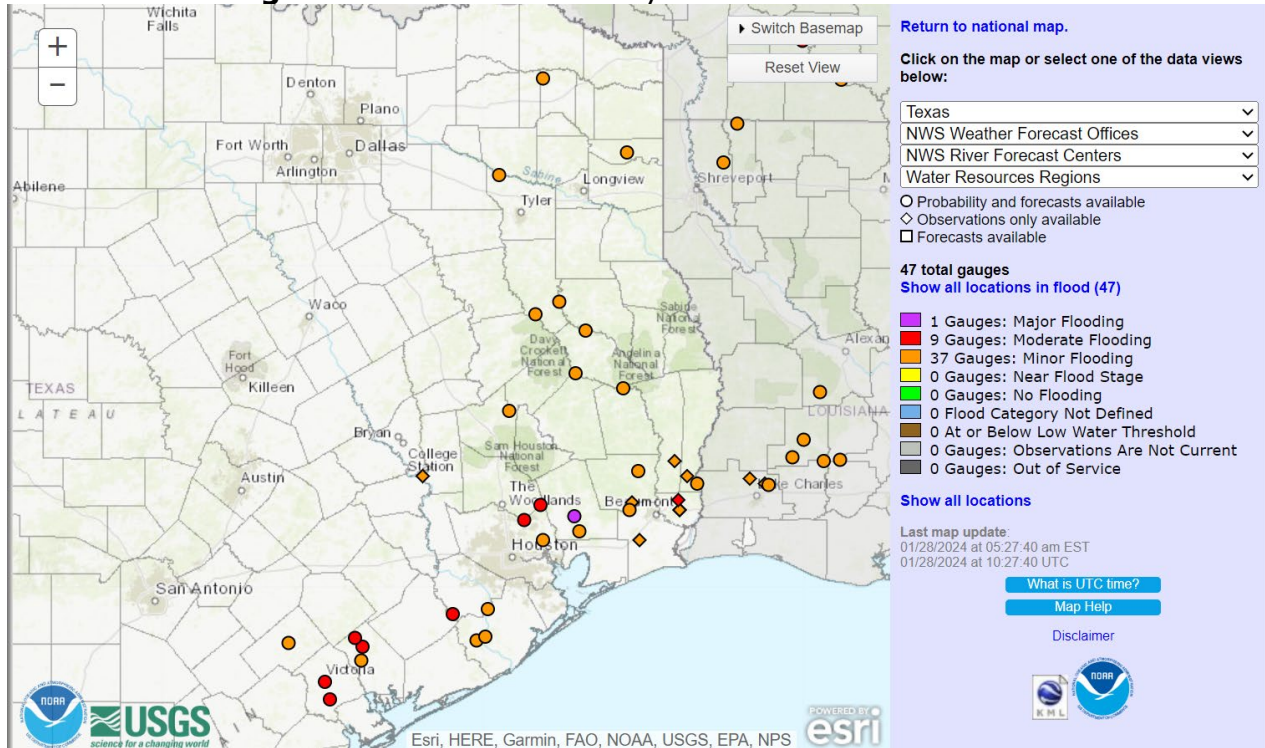
Texans can report weather damage to homes and businesses using the Individual State of Texas Assessment Tool (iSTAT) damage survey. The iSTAT damage survey can be filled out in English and Spanish online by visiting damage.tdem.texas.gov and clicking on "January 21st - Ongoing Flooding Event." The details 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 28.



River Flooding:

A major flood stage is being reported along the West Fork of the San Jacinto River near Humble in Harris County, which is forecast to crest on January 27.

A major flood stage is being reported along the Trinity River near Liberty in Liberty County, which is forecast to crest on January 28.

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

A minor flood stage is being reported along the Angelina, Brazos, Guadalupe, Navidad, Neches, Sabine, San Bernard, San Jacinto, and the Trinity 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)

Austin County: Austin County OEM continues to coordinate with TxDOT and county resources about the roadways being affected by the flooding from Mill Creek.

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

Residents evacuated from the East Fork RV Resort in Cleveland, TX, who were evacuated on January 26 from flooding, have started to return. The water has subsided, and the power has been restored.

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.

On January 27, the San Jacinto River Authority stated that Lake Conroe is discharging at 5,370 cfs.

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

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

The TDEM District Chief reported several road closures throughout the district due to flooding.

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.

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.

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): The TX-PWRT Liaison continues to 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 one adult and two pets from a flooded home in TDEM Region 4. There are currently 130 personnel assigned to support this activation.

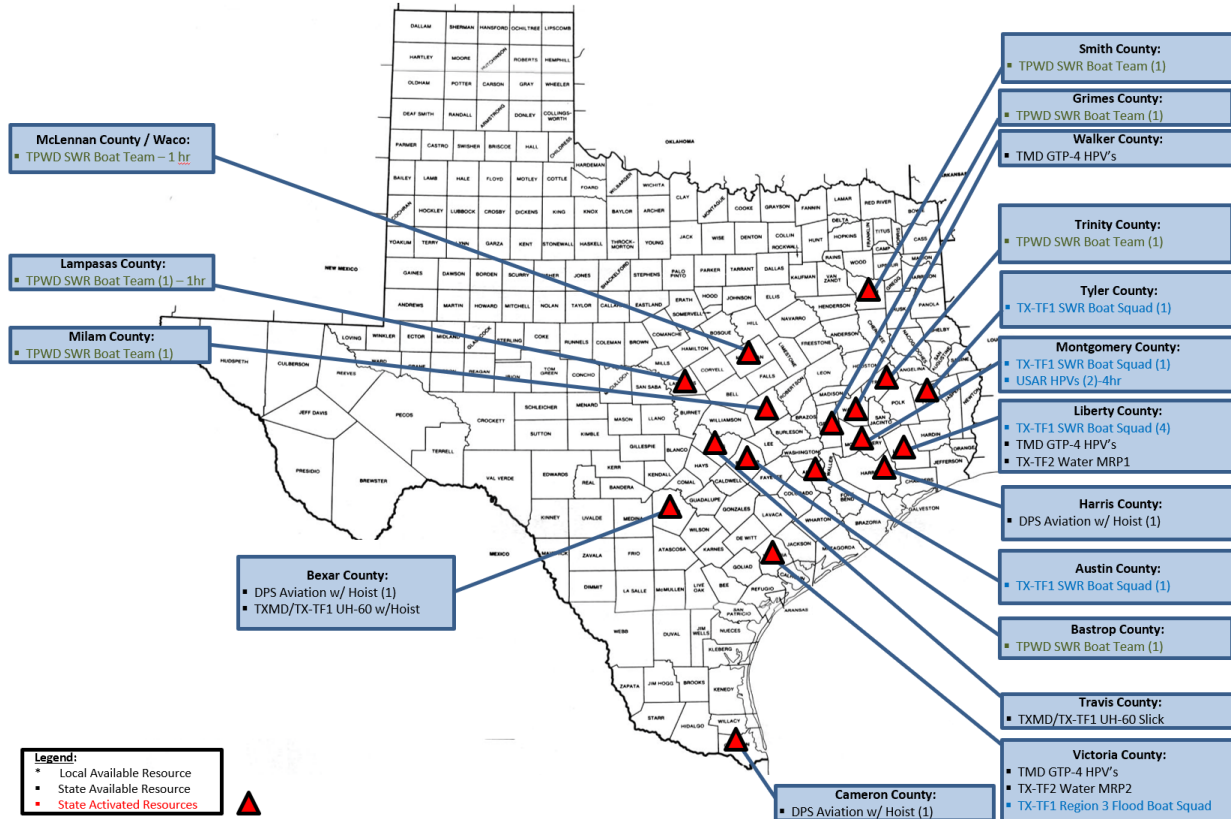
On January 25, there were two vehicle rescues reported in Cleveland, Liberty County. The rescues were conducted on County Road 3812 and Farm to Market Road 1725.

On January 26, over the last 24 hours, TX-TF1 resources have been very active completing 42 evacuations from vehicles and neighborhoods.

As of January 27, 117 personnel have been assigned to this activation.

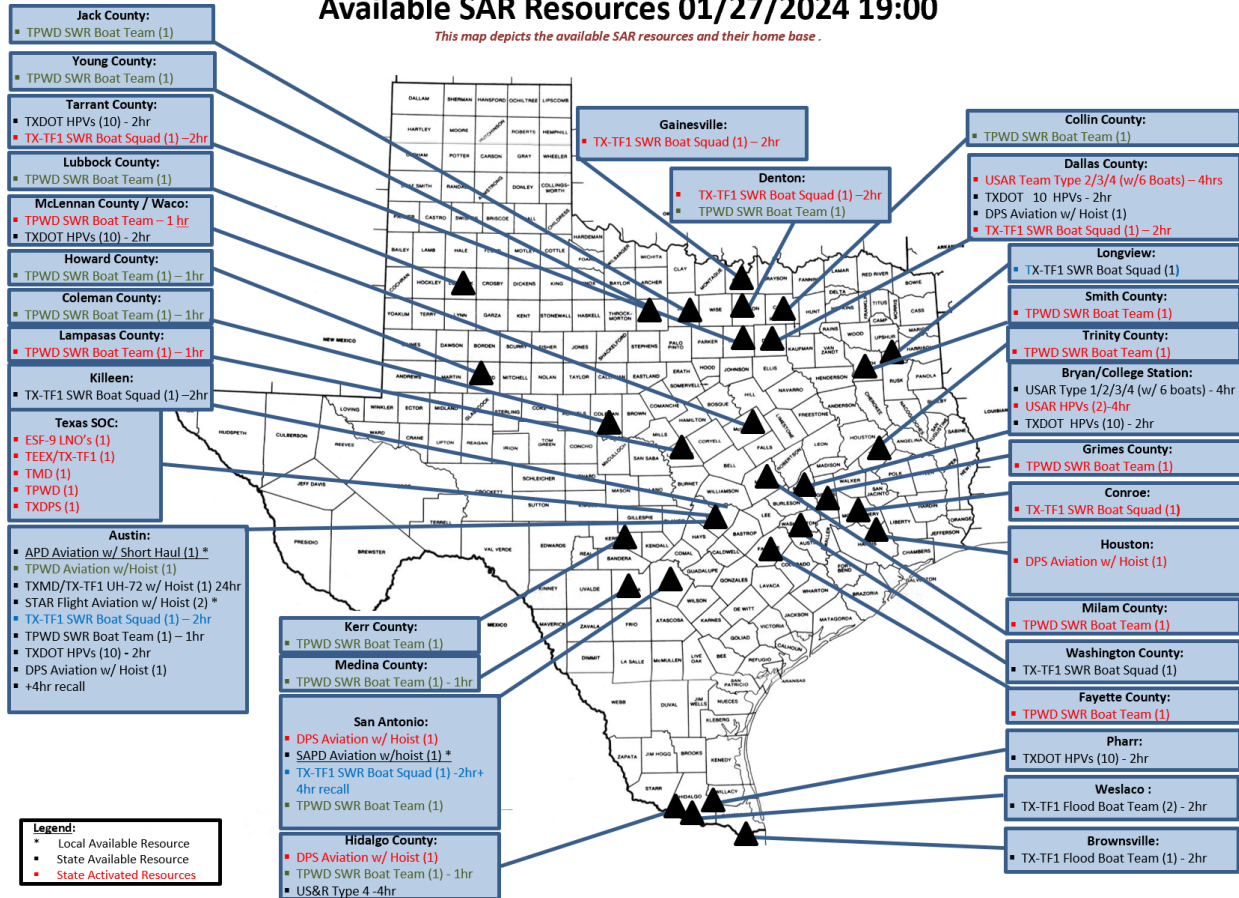
Assigned SAR Resources Location 01/27/2024 19:00

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 01/27/2024 19:00

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



Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): TAHC began staffing the SOC for this event on January 22, 2024. ESF 11 is paying close attention to forecasts and areas that may be potentially impacted by flooding, monitoring for resource requests, and is maintaining a readiness posture to respond to unmet needs as they present.

TAHC received word on January 24 & 25 of animal water rescues in Montgomery & Austin Counties. Both incidents were handled at the local level with no additional needs or issues reported.

On January 25, TAHC and the Montgomery County Sherriff's Office Livestock Deputies responded to assist an owner with the retrieval of eight sheep & goats, one cow, and three horses from flood water. These animals were moved to dry land where they remain on the property for the owner to provide care while the waters recede. TAHC, AgriLife Extension and DAR Agents identified the Montgomery County Fairgrounds as a potential shelter site and built makeshift pens for smaller livestock, if additional rescues are needed. There have been no requests for further assistance as needs are currently being met at the local level.

Additionally, TAHC EM Specialist & Texas A&M AgriLife Ext Agent have worked with industry partners and producers in Liberty County to communicate the urgency for movement of livestock from the river bottom due to the increased threat of flooding.

TAHC will continue to monitor impacts from rising waters and flooding over the next few days in areas where livestock may be affected. All ESF11 assets and resources remain on standby. Currently, TAHC has not received any requests for resources and reports no unmet needs.

TAHC, Texas A&M Veterinary, and Texas A&M AgriLife have assisted Liberty County with pre-identifying locations in their plan to shelter large animals. With several waterways in the county, a shelter location may be appropriately selected at the fairgrounds or sale barns, as needed.

On January 26, the water rescue of a horse and a goat in Montgomery County was tracked by TAHC. The animals were reunited with their owner by first responders and taken to a temporary pasture.

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

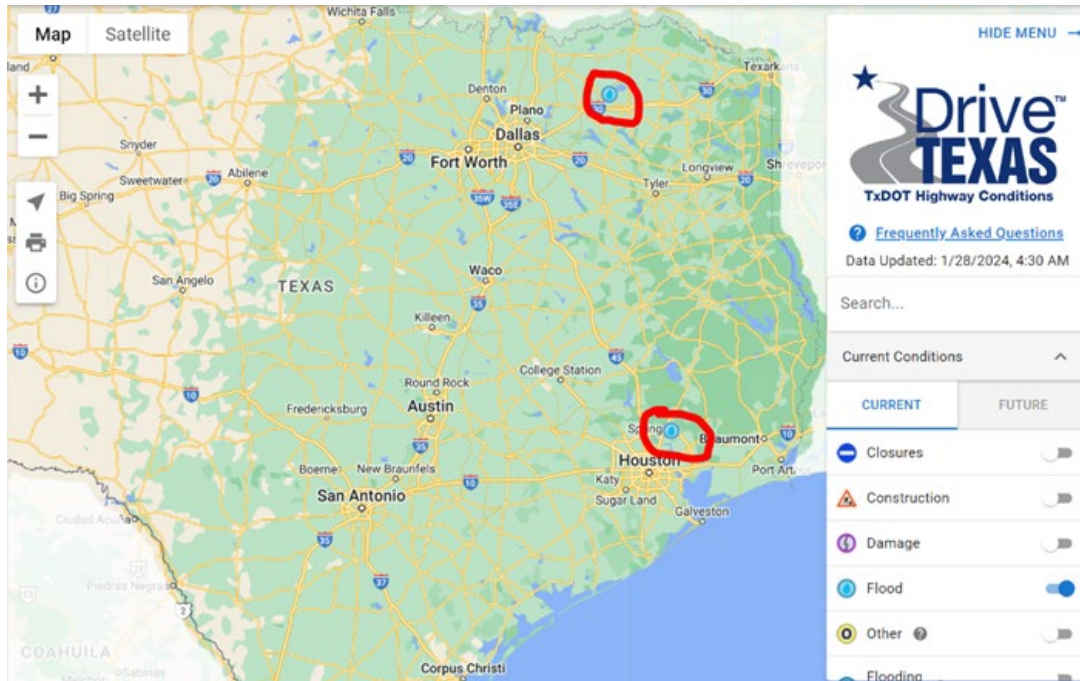
TXDPS Aviation Operations Division (AOD) has three H-125 hoist-equipped helicopters stationed in Houston, San Antonio, and Edinburg are ready for immediate response.

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): DSHS Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) resources returned to normal operations effective January 26.

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

TxDOT is reporting roadways affected by high water due to flooding: As of 4:30 AM on January 28. (www.drivetexas.org)



Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD has activated three Ground Transportation Platoons to support TX-TF1. TMD has activated 42 personnel, 15 vehicles, and [two aircraft](#). Units are staged in Huntsville, Liberty, and Victoria. Rotary Wing Mission Ready Package 1x UH-60 ([Conroe](#)), 1 UH-60 ([Ellington Field](#)), and One Air Operation Support. TMD is also supporting the State Operation Center.

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 |

| Agency | Resource Kind and Type | Personnel | Equip | Status | Location |
|----------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| 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 | Assigned | Montgomery County |
| TEEX TX-TF1 | Swift Water Boat Squad | 6 | 2 | Assigned | Austin County |
| TEEX TX-TF1 | Swift Water Boat Squad | 6 | 2 | Assigned | Tyler County |
| TEEX TX-TF1 | Swift Water Boat Squad | 24 | 8 | Assigned | Liberty 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 |
| TEEX TX-TF1 | HPV | 7 | 2 | Assigned | Montgomery County |
| TEEX TX-TF1 | ESF 9 Overhead | 10 | 0 | Assigned | Brazos County |
| TEEX TX-TF1 | ESF 9 SOC LNO | 2 | 0 | Assigned | Austin |
| TEEX TX-TF1 | TX-TF1 Rescue Swimmers | 2 | 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 | Liberty 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, |

| Agency | Resource Kind and Type | Personnel | Equip | Status | Location |
|--------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | | | McLennan, Medina |
| TxDOT | EMC | 1 | 0 | Assigned | Austin |
| TxDOT | SOC LNO | 1 | 0 | Assigned | Austin |
| TMD | SOC MRP | 3 | 0 | Assigned | Austin |
| TMD | Ground Transportation Platoon | 10 | 5 | Assigned | Huntsville |
| TMD | Ground Transportation Platoon | 10 | 5 | Assigned | Victoria |
| TMD | Ground Transportation Platoon | 10 | 5 | Assigned | Liberty |
| TMD | Rotary Wing MRP | 8 | 2 | Assigned | Conroe/ Ellington Field |
| TMD | Air Ops Support | 1 | 0 | Assigned | Austin |
| 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 |
| TAHC | SOC Representative | 1 | | Assigned On-Call | SOC |
| TAHC | TAHC Emergency Management | 1 | | Activated/on-Call | Virtual |

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>*

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