

# Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

#### **New Information in Blue Text**

<b>Event Name</b>	24-0011 08APR Severe Weather				
Date	April 12, 2024				
Time	10:00 AM				
<b>Operational Period</b>	8:00 AM April 11 to 8:00 AM April 12, 2024				
Report Number	3				

Regions Affected	
TDEM Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 & 8
DDs Active	5, 7, 12, 13, 14

**STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:** On April 9, Governor Abbott directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to deploy additional state emergency response resources ahead of severe storms and flash flooding, including large hail and possible tornadoes, expected to move across Texas through Wednesday night.

According to the National Weather Service, severe thunderstorms and flash flooding are expected to impact the state through tomorrow night. The severe thunderstorm threat across Texas includes large hail, heavy rainfall, damaging wind, and possible tornadoes. Additionally, significant rainfall could cause serious flash flooding and river flooding in portions of the state through the end of the week.

Earlier this week, the Governor <u>directed</u> TDEM to mobilize state emergency response resources and increase the readiness level of the State Emergency Operations Center to Level II (Escalated Response) in preparation for this week's severe weather.

At the Governor's direction, TDEM has mobilized the following additional resources across the state to support local emergency response operations:

- Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (Texas A&M Task Force 1 and Texas Task Force 2): Urban Search & Rescue Teams and Boat Squads
- Texas A&M Forest Service: All-Hazard Incident Management Teams and Saw Crews
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: Game Wardens, Park Police Officers, and Swiftwater Rescue Boat Squads

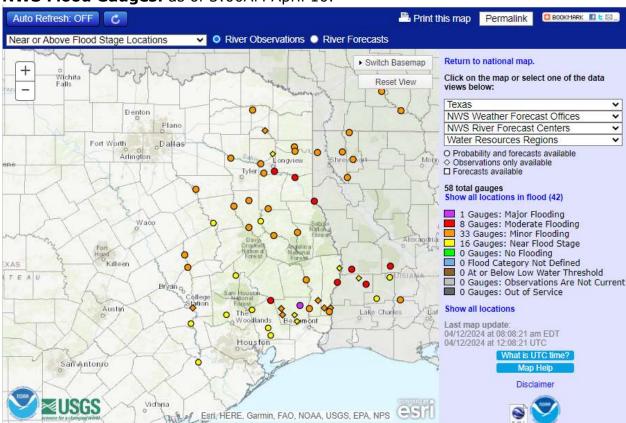
- **Texas Department of Public Safety:** Tactical Marine Unit and Helicopters with Hoist Capabilities
- Texas Military Department: Ground Transportation Platoons

Over the weekend, TDEM mobilized the following emergency response resources across the state at Governor Abbott's direction to support local emergency response operations:

- **Texas A&M Forest Service:** Firefighters and fire engines; heavy equipment such as bulldozers and motor graders; Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) Strike Teams comprised of personnel and fire engines; Firefighting aircraft including large airtankers, multi-engine air tankers, single engine airtankers, aerial supervision modules and air attack platforms
- **Texas Division of Emergency Management:** Emergency response personnel to support requests for state assistance from local officials; Communications Coordination Group is engaging with telecommunications partners
- Texas National Guard: UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters
- Texas Department of State Health Service (Texas Emergency Medical Task Force): Wildland Fire Support Packages and Severe Weather Support Packages including paramedics and ambulances
- **Texas Department of Transportation:** Personnel and equipment to assist with road closures; motor graders to support emergency response operations
- **Texas Department of Public Safety:** Texas Highway Patrol Troopers to assist with road closures and traffic control
- **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department:** Game Wardens and Park Police Officers to provide law enforcement support
- **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension:** Disaster Assessment and Recovery Agents as well as AgriLife Extension Agents to support agricultural and livestock needs
- Texas Animal Health Commission: Personnel to provide livestock support
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality: Air/water/wastewater monitoring
- **Public Utility Commission of Texas:** Personnel to coordinate with utility providers across the threat area

Texans are urged to monitor local forecast information and make an emergency plan. Additionally, people across the state are encouraged to follow instructions of local officials and keep an emergency supply kit nearby.

Visit <u>DriveTexas.org</u> to check road conditions, and locate additional severe storm safety tips at <u>TexasReady.gov</u>.



# **NWS Flood Gauges:** as of 3:00AM April 10.

# **River Flooding:**

Moderate river flooding is being reported at the Sabine River near Beckville, Bon Weir, Greenville, and Longview.

Moderate river flooding is being reported at Menard Creek near Rye.

#### **OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:**

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

## Region 1 (Includes DDs 1, 2, and 7)

DD 7 – Abilene (Includes Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, and Taylor Counties): Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)

# Region 2 (Includes DDs 3, 4, and 22)

DD 4 – Dallas/Ft. Worth (Includes Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise Counties): Level IV (Normal Conditions)

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

DD 5 – Mt. Pleasant (Includes Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus Counties): Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)

DD 6 – Tyler (Includes Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood Counties): Level IV (Normal Conditions)

**Panola County:** On April 11, Panola County submitted a Letter to the Governor.

DD 14 – Lufkin (Includes Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, and Tyler Counties): Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)

**Shelby County:** On April 10, Shelby County submitted a Disaster Declaration. Voluntary evacuations occurred in the Sand Isle area.

**Tyler County:** On April 10, Tyler County submitted a Disaster Declaration. Voluntary evacuations occurred in the areas of Fox Landing, Mount Neches, and Barlow Lake Estates.

**Newton County:** On April 10, Newton County and the City of Newton both submitted Disaster Declarations.

DD 15 - Beaumont (Includes Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, and Orange Counties)

**Jasper County:** On April 10, Jasper County submitted a Disaster Declaration.

**Hardin County:** On April 10, Harding County submitted a Disaster Declaration.

## Region 4 (Includes DDs 16)

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

**Galveston County:** Numerous power outages were reported because of fallen poles, and mobile homes suffered damage throughout the county. The Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL) is coordinating with Texas Gulf Coast Regional Voluntary

Organizations in Disaster (TGCRVOAD) for debris cleanup. R.D. McAdams Junior High School sustained a gas leak that has been repaired and repairs to the damage to the roof began on April 10.

**Harris County:** Assessments are underway for damaged and collapsed commercial structures near Katy. Damages were confirmed by the National Weather Service (NWS) from an F-1 Tornado.

#### Region 7 (Includes DDs 8, 9, and 10)

DD 10 – San Angelo (Includes Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, and Tom Green Counties): Level IV (Normal Conditions)

## 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): Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)

DD 13 – Bryan (Includes Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Leon, Madison, Robertson, and Washington Counties): Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)

#### **RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS**

**Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM):** Incident Support Task Force (ISTF) has assigned three personnel to the SOC and are monitoring the current weather conditions.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) / Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT): TX-PWRT has one Liason Officer (LNO) assigned to the SOC to coordinate and support operations. Resource availability has been disseminated and the TX-PWRT LNO continues to monitor requests.

**Texas Military Department (TMD):** TMD has assigned six personnel to the SOC and activated Two Ground Transportation Platoons (GTP), with a total of 26 personnel, for sever weather response. On 11 April, both GTPs moved to Jasper for incident support.

**Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD):** Texas Game Warden Officers are prepared to respond and support rescue operations with statewide resources and has assigned two LNOs to the SOC. TWPD officers, boat rescue teams with swift water and shallow running boats, search and rescue (SAR) teams with 4x4 vehicles, a helicopter crew with one rescue swimmer, and one drone operator are available on standby. One resident was evacuated from her house by TPWD due to flood waters on April 9. TPWD Aviation assisted with a search and rescue operation in Newton County on April 10. Other calls for service for aviation included being

over watch for rescue boat crews as they evacuated individuals due to the severe flooding.

TPWD aviation was requested on 11 April by the Speaker of the House to help do a damage assessment flight. Local Game Wardens and SAR Teams stand by and are ready to support as needed.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):** TxDOT is closely monitoring both fire and severe weather threats across the state, and the TxDOT LNO will be at SOC during the day and will operate virtually at night. Overnight TxDOT crews responded to multiple reports overnight to include flooding, accidents on major highways, assistance to law enforcement, diverting traffic from flooded roadways, and clearing debris from roadways. TxDOT will begin preliminary damage assessments as soon as floodwaters recede and as of April 10, 32 state-maintained roads were impacted by flooding, to include 21 road closures.

**Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) / Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF):** EMTF assets have been released. EMTF 4 & 6 are no longer at Awareness status due to clear weather conditions, with no anticipated changes until April 15. The severe Weather Package in Brazos County demobed as of April 11. SCO LNO & SCO will be operational today and will be released going forward from April 12 until further notice.

American Red Cross (ARC): The ARC has identified Disaster Relief Operations (DRO) team leadership and Mass Care Teams have prepositioned supplies with shelters on standby. ARC has conducted disaster assessments for an RV park on the outskirts of Waco that was under water. Twenty cases were reported, and all were assessed as major damage. All residents declined to go to a shelter. Preliminary Damage Assessments are being performed in affected areas that are accessible. Multiple areas needing DA are still inaccessible.

The ARC opened three shelters at the following locations.

Kirbyville, TX: Assembly of God Church, 101 W. Trout St. with 35 sheltered overnight as of the morning of April 11. Colmesneil, TX: Colmesneil High School, 610 W. Elder St. with four sheltered overnight as of the morning of April 11. Port Arthur, TX: Empowerment Church, 3600 Memorial Blvd. 12 sheltered overnight as of the morning of April 11

**The Salvation Army (TSA):** The Salvation Army has deployed the Canteen to Kirbyville to support first responders and those affected by the severe weather with food and hydration. As of April 11, the TSA has provided 55 drinks with electrolyte packets along with 55 snacks.

**Southern Baptist Texas Convention (SBTC):** Six shower units were delivered to the Tyler Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to support first responders in the area. SBTC has provided a quick response feed unit to Empowerment Church in Port Arthur, TX.

**Texas Baptist Men (TBM):** The TBM, Texans on Mission, quick response feeding unit is on standby. TBM has received eight requests from homeowners in Port Arthur for general cleanup. Anticipated start date is Sunday, April 14.

Mercy Chefs: Mercy Chefs are on standby to support feeding operations.

## **STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED**

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TEEX TX-PWRT	SOC LNO	1	1	Assigned	SOC
DSHS	SOC LNO	1	0	Activated	SOC
DSHS	SC0	1	0	Activated	San Antonio
DSHS TX-EMTF	SXW PKG	21	6	Activated	Brazos Co.
DSHS TX-EMTF	TFL	3	0	Activated	Bexar, Tarrant, and Travis Co.
DSHS TX-EMTF	MIST	12	0	Activated	Bexar, Smith, Tarrant, and Travis Co.
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Activated	Austin/SOC
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin/TxDOT HQ
TMD	GTP	20	10	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	SOC Support Team	6	0	Assigned	SOC
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Activated	SOC
TPWD	Game Wardens/State Park Police	15	15	Available	TPWD Region 3
TPWD	Game Warden SAR	10	10	Available	Smith, Tyler, Jasper, Counties
TPWD	Swift Water Boats/Airboats		4	Available	Smith, Tyler, Jasper, Counties
TPWD	Helicopter	3	1	Activated	Austin/Travis County
TPWD	Drone	1	1	Available	Tyler, Jasper, Counties
Mass Care	ESF6 Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC
Mass Care	ISTF Staff	1	0	Assigned	SOC
Mass Care	VOAD	1	0	Assigned	SOC

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional 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-2

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