

## Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text				
Event Name 24-0014 26APR Severe Weather				
Date	May 4, 2024			
Time	10:00 AM			
<b>Operational Period</b>	8:00 AM May 3 to 8:00 AM May 4, 2024			
Report Number	3			

Regions Affected	
<b>TDEM Regions Affected</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, & 8
DDs Active	3, 4, 7, & 14

**STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:** On May 2, Governor Abbott <u>expanded the</u> <u>state's disaster declaration</u> to include 59 additional counties in areas at-risk for severe weather and flooding, with the updated disaster declaration covering 88 counties in total. Additional counties may be added as conditions warrant.

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On May 01, Governor Greg Abbott announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved <u>his request for a disaster declaration</u> in Texas communities affected by severe weather and flooding early last month. Texas counties included in the declaration are Angelina, Hardin, Jasper, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine, and Tyler counties.

On April 30, Governor Greg issued a <u>disaster declaration</u> for 29 Texas counties impacted by severe storms and flooding that began last week and continues to affect homes, businesses, and the agricultural industry throughout the state

On April 27, National Weather Service (NWS) survey teams assessed 10 tornadoes occurring on April 26 in Hill and McLennan Counties, ranging from EF0 to EF2. Another four EF0 tornadoes on April 28 in Freestone, Limestone, and Milam Counties were assessed on April 29. One EF1 tornado in Travis County was assessed on April 29.

On April 25, Governor Greg Abbott <u>announced that he directed</u> TDEM to prepare state emergency response resources ahead of critical wildfire danger and severe weather across Texas.

### **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.

#### NWS Flood Gauges: as of 04:00 AM, May 4.

Major river flooding is being reported at the Trinity River near Goodrich and Liberty.

Major river flooding is being reported at the San Jacinto River near Conroe and Humble.

Major river flooding is being reported at the Navasota River near Easterly.

Major river flooding is being reported at the Neches River near Saltwater Barrier.

Moderate river flooding is being reported at the Trinity River near Trinidad, Riverside, and Moss Bluff.

Moderate river flooding is being reported at the San Jacinto River near Sheldon and New Caney.

Moderate river flooding is being reported at the Sabine River near Deweyville and Gladewater.

Moderate river flooding is being reported at the Neches River near Alto and Saltwater Barrier.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Sabine River near Mineola and Hawkins.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Trinity River near Romayor, Long Lake, and Moss Bluff.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Neches River near Diboll, Neches, Town Bluff, Evadale, and Rockland.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Angelina River near Cushing

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Navasota River near Groesbeck and Normangee.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the San Jacinto River near Porter, I-10, and International Paper.

## 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)

**Jones County:** On May 2, there were tornado reports between Hawley and Hodges. Damage assessments have been initiated in the area.

**Knox County:** On April 26, damage assessments from Knox City reported 20 damaged structures.

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

DD 3 – Wichita Falls (Includes Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Young Counties)

**Baylor County:** On April 28, damage to power lines, outbuildings, and farm equipment to the west of Seymour was reported.

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

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

**Polk County:** On April 29, A Mandatory Evacuation was issued for the low-lying areas near Lake Livingston Dam. 3.

**Tyler County**: On May 2, a voluntary evacuation notice was issued.

### **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)

**Harris County:** On May 2, Harris County issued a mandatory evacuation notice for the areas from Farm-to-Market (FM) 1485 to Lake Houston.

**Liberty County:** On April 30, there were approximately 30 water rescues from homes and vehicles. The East Fork RV Resort in the city of Cleveland was evacuated

and no shelters were needed. On May 2, a voluntary evacuation notice was issued for low-lying subdivisions along the Trinity River.

**Montgomery County:** On May 2, there were 71 active road closures impacting the County Precincts 1, 2 and 4. A voluntary evacuation notice has been sent to Idle Wild and Idle Glen neighborhoods.

**Walker County:** On May 2, local fire departments (FD) performed water rescues with the assistance of Texas Task Force (TTF) 1 in affected areas. On May 3, the <u>Lake Conroe Dam</u> began discharging at a rate of 67,778 cubic feet second (cfs), and the maximum reported discharge rate was 20,945 cfs. On May 3, Walker County reported there were two water rescues performed.

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

DD 11 – Waco (Includes Bosque, Falls, Freestone, Hill, Limestone, and McLennan Counties)

On May 2, the Lake Limestone gates released at a rate of 43,824 cfs.

**Limestone County**: On May 1, there were reports of flooded roadways resulting in stranded motorists. A train derailment occurred due to flooding but there was no HazMat incident, or injuries involved.

**Freestone County:** On May 1, there were reports of stranded motorists in Teague on Interstate Highway (IH) 45 and rural areas. The Texas Task Force (TTF) 1 boat squad has repositioned to assist for future rescues.

# **RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS**

# STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

**Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM):** Mass Care has begun collaborating with our Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) partners and locally impacted counties. There are currently eight shelters that the American Red Cross support with a total population of 21, as of May 3.

**Incident Support Task Force (I.S.T.F):** On May 1, ISTF assigned three personnel to the SOC. ISTF has activated personnel to the Trinity County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to assist with operations. On May 3, the Southeast Texas Food Bank distributed cleanup kits and food boxes to Liberty County.

**Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension:** On May 2, two AgriLife Extension Agents (Liason Officer) LNO's have been activated to support Disaster District Emergency Operations Center (DDEOC) 14 Lufkin and 16 Houston. On May 1, The AgriLife Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Unit has rostered four DAR Strike Team and a DAR Strike Team has been assigned to provide support to the TAMU Veterinarian (VET). AgriLife DAR Agents are in contact with officials in affected counties to monitor needs and provide support. A DAR agent in Disaster District (DD) 14 is working with the Voluntary Agency Liason (VAL) in San Jacinto County to locate animal supplies for a local animal shelter. The San Jacinto County Extension Agent assisted with the relocation of 10 trailer loads of cattle in floodwaters.

On May 3, AgriLife Extension DAR Agents continue to be on standby and ready to respond to requests. They are monitoring weather situations in their affected counties and maintaining contact with partner agencies and jurisdictions. Three AgriLife Extension Liaisons were activated to serve in DDEOC 14, 15 and 16 which increased their response posture.

**Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX):** On May 1, TEEX assigned Liason Officer's (LNO) to the SOC, DDEOC 16, and Strike teams including a pumping operations team, Drone sUAS team, utilities team and Water/Wastewater (W/WW) teams are on standby for local and state requests.

**Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1):** On May 1, TX-TF1 assigned Swiftwater Boat Squads to be available to support flooding operations.

On May 3, an additional mission ready packing (MRP) of six Flood Water Boat Squads, comprising 26 personnel from both TXTF2 and TXTF3 arrived in Huntsville and is mission ready.

**Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) / Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT):** One TEEX/TX-PWRT personnel staffing the Public Works and Engineering position at the DDEOC 14 in Lufkin. One TEEX/TX-PWRT personnel staffing the Public Works and Engineering position at the DDEOC 15 in Beaumont. TEEX and TX-PWRT have assigned personnel to support and coordinate operations from the SOC. Two TEEX/TX-PWRT are staffing Public Works and Engineering personnel at the DDEOC 16 in Houston. Multiple strike teams are rostered and available to deploy, including pumping operations team, drone sUAS team, utilities team, and W/WW teams. Those teams are on standby and ready to respond to local and state requests for assistance. PWRT Worked with TDEM logistics to locate pumps and accessories if the need comes for pump use.

On May 3, reports that the wastewater treatment plant located at Lake Livingston New River Estates was completely under water in Liberty County. PWRT strike teams will begin staging in Houston, Lufkin, and Beaumont beginning the morning of May 4 for local regional requests.

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS):** TAMFS will maintain situational awareness of severe weather and we are standing by to support weather impacted areas with AHIMT, Saw Crews and TIFMAS personnel as requested.

**Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):** On May 01, TAHC assigned a representative to the SOC. TAHC field staff are available to assist local producers and jurisdictions to address any animal issues or needs.

On May 3, reports of a water rescue in San Jacinto County for 50 dwarf goats. Upon arrival the goats found higher ground and were provided hay until the water over roadways receded enough for trailers to pass through for retrieval.

On May 3, shelters with animal populations are being tracked in the following counties: Polk, San Jacinto, Montgomery, Walker, and Liberty. The animals are being cared for at the local level or being cared for by their owner with no request for state support/resources.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** TCEQ has staff available to respond to any air/water/waste related issues including drinking water/wastewater issues and/or emergency response activities, as needed.

TCEQ is currently tracking 28 drinking water systems that are on a Boil Water Notice (BWN) serving a population of 27,123.

**Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS):** The DPS TMU has deployed six flat water boats to Conroe. The DPS Aviation are conducting patrols in low-lying areas in search of possible water rescues needed and identifying high-water areas. The Texas Department of Public Safety is providing the following resources in support of severe weather affecting Texas. DPS Aviation Operations Division has four helicopter teams stationed in Dallas, Austin, El Paso, and Edinburg ready to respond and DPS relocated a helicopter with hoist capabilities from Austin to Houston. Texas Highway Patrol's Tactical Marine Unit (TMU) has rescue specialists assigned to hoist capable helicopters in Austin and Dallas, and flood water boats throughout the state.

On May 2, DPS Aviation conducted reconnaissance flight over the dam at Lake Livingston and then flew down the Trinity River towards Liberty. They communicated with authorities in Polk and Jacinto Counites, no rescues were necessary in those areas. In Liberty County, DPS Aviation received several requests from the Plum Grove area, upon arrival ground teams had already completed all rescues. DPS Aviation also completed reconnaissance over the Lake Conroe dam area and along the San Jacinto River into Harris County. On May 2, DPS THP TMU was requested by TTF-1 to assist alongside other state agencies' boat teams, with water rescues requested. DPS TMU deployed six flat-water boats to Conroe, staging them at the Lone Star Convention Center.

On May 3, DPS Aviation fulfilled the flight request to transport the Montgomery County Judge and County Commissioner for Precinct 4 from Lake Conroe to the West Fork San Jacinto and parts of the East Fork San Jacinto. A subsequent flight involving personnel from the Montgomery Office of Emergency Management and the Montgomery County Fire Marshal, followed the same route.

On May 3, DPS THP Tactical Marine Unit (TMU) responded to multiple calls, but some of the citizens had been picked up before their arrival. Nonetheless, the Tactical Marine Unit successfully evacuated five people and eight dogs during a water rescue operation.

**Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):** On May 1, DSHS assigned LNO's to the SOC. Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Severe Weather Packages (SWX PKGs) 2 and 6 are on standby. One SWX package is on standby for EMTFs 1 & 2.

On May 3, SouthEast Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC) will increase the Catastrophic Medical Operations Center (CMOC) activation to Level II. DSHS issued a state mission assignment (SMA) for CMOC until May 6, for three staff at DDEOC, 1 staff to DD Lufkin, 3-4 staff to Transtar.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):** TxDOT has assigned a LNO to support the SOC and have crews are performing damage assessments on roads and bridges that have been impacted. As of May 2, there were 132 state-maintained roads impacted by flooding, including 60 road closures. TxDOT crews patrolled low-lying areas to identify roads/bridge that have been affected. DriveTexas.org is regularly updated to ensure motorists have access to most current road safety advisories.

On May 3, 30 state maintained roads were impacted by flooding, including 38 road closures. TxDOT crews patrolled flood-prone areas and assisted law enforcement and emergency responders throughout the night and have been out barricading flooded roads and identifying road and bridge damages resulting from storms and floodwaters in East Texas.

**Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC):** On May 2, a staff member was deployed to support DDEOC 16 in Houston. There are no known major impacts to healthcare. One childcare facility was evacuated due to flooding around their location. On May 1, HHSC began staffing the SOC in support of severe

weather and flooding response operation. On May 3, the residential childcare facility that was evacuated on May 2 was repopulated.

**Texas Military Department (TMD):** TMD has activated three Ground Transportation Platoons (GTP), one Ground Transportation Company Headquarters (GTCHQ), and two UH-60s with Crews in support of our State Partners Texas Task Force 1 (TX TF-1) and Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) for ongoing Severe Weather and flooding in East and Southeast Texas. Two GTPs will be staged in Houston, one GTP in Huntsville, and the Rotary Wing Medium will be staged in College Station with two TX TF-1 Rescue Swimmers on each aircraft. TMD has activated a SOC Support Team in Austin supporting the Severe Weather Incident. TMD has activated Military District Coordinators as liaison officers to facilitate situational awareness and communications in support of severe weather events. TMD has activated 60 personnel, 19 Vehicles and 2 Aircraft in support of 24-0014 26APR Severe Weather.

**Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD):** TPWD has prepared department resources consisting of Texas Game Wardens and State Parks Police Officers equipped with swift water boats and shallow water boats to support rescue operations. Additional personnel and equipment are on standby to respond to the areas affected. TPWD SAR Team and Game Warden UAV pilot have scouted areas with potential flood concerns. One personnel is assigned to assist DDEOC 16 in Houston.

As of May 3, TPWD has performed 68 rescues, 106 evacuations, 43 evacuations of pets/animals for a total of 217 responses.

**Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUC):** On May 2, electrical outages peaked around noon with approximately 160k customers out as the second line of storms started pushing through the Houston area.

On May 2, Utilities restored power to over 150k customers. Outages started rising as the newest lines of storms moved through southeast (SE) Texas. The largest outage counts are in Montgomery, Liberty, and Harris County. The bulk of these outages are expected to be restored on May 2, pending additional storm activity.

American Red Cross (ARC): On May 2, ARC began assisting with five shelters, conducting damage assessments, and supplied 192 meals in Tyler, Polk, San Jacinto, Harris, Montgomery, and Liberty Counties.

**The Salvation Army (TSA):** On May 1, TSA assigned a LNO to the SOC and has their mobile feeding unit and volunteers ready to assist impacted areas. TSA is supporting shelter feeding operations in Walker County and has begun evaluating conditions in affected areas. TSA and Southern Baptist Texas Convention DR are

coordinating a mass feeding site and feeding units have been put on standby to support feeding operations as soon as areas become accessible.

On May 3, TSA is now planning a feeding operation in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Texas Convention (SBTC) at The Salvation Army Houston Area Command Warehouse. TSA will set up a base camp operation along with a Southern Baptist Texas Convention Kitchen in Houston. TSA will stage two feeding units in Conroe to serve the Huntsville and Cold Spring areas. The Livingston and Cleveland areas will still be a challenge, but once water starts to recede, we will adjust. The Salvation Army will activate an IMT starting Sunday to be staged in Houston. Field kitchen operations are scheduled to start May 6.

**Southern Baptist Texas Convention (SBTC):** Mass Feeding will be done in assistance with The Salvation Army. SBTC disaster relief (DR) Mass Feeding and quick response feeding unit (QRU) will arrive & setup on May 5.

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM	Mass Care ESF6	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	DRTF HQ staff	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF Members	1	0	Assigned	Trinity County EOC
TDEM	ISTF Members	2	0	En Route	Trinity County EOC
AgriLife	DAR Strike Team	26	6	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	SOC Liason	2	0	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	Extension Admin	2	0	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	DDEOC 14, 15 & 16 Liaisons	2	0	Assigned	Houston and Lufkin
TEEX TX-TF1	Swiftwater Boat Squad	24	8	Activated	Hopkins, Kaufman, McLennan, and Navarro Counties
TEEX/TX- PWRT	SOC LNO	2	2	Assigned	SOC Austin
TEEX/TX- PWRT	ESF 3 LNO	2	2	Assigned	DDEOC - Houston
TEEX- PWRT	ESF 3 LNO	1	1	Assigned	Lufkin
TEEX- PWRT	Team 1	5	3	Activated	Houston
TEEX- PWRT	Team 2	4	2	Activated	Beaumont

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report Saturday, May 04, 2024

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TEEX- PWRT	Team 3	4	2	Activated	Lufkin
TAMFS	LNO, AHIMT	DDEOC 16	5	Assigned	Houston
TAMFS	LNO, AHIMT	DDEOC 15	3	Assigned	Beaumont
TAMFS	LNO, AHIMT	DDEOC 14	4	Assigned	Lufkin
TAMFS	TF	11		Activated	Uvalde
TAMFS	ST, SEATs, Air Attack	17	4	Activated	Alpine
TAMFS	TF, EMTF11, REM, SEATs, Air Attack	27	3	Activated	Ft. Stockton
TAMFS	TF, Air Attack	14	1	Activated	San Angelo
TAMFS	LATs, ASM		3	Activated	Abilene
TAMFS	SEATs, Air Attack		4	Activated	Dumas
TAMFS	Dozer Crew	4	1	Activated	Edinburg
TAHC	SOC Representative	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TAHC	TAHC Emergency Management	1	0	Available, On Call	Virtual
TAHC	TAHC Emergency Management	1	1	Activated	Walker/ Montgomery Counties
ТАНС	TAHC Livestock Inspectors	1	1	Activated	San Jacinto/ Montgomery Counties
TCEQ	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
DPS	SOC	2	2	Assigned	Austin
DPS	Helicopters w/Hoist	3	1	Activated	Liberty and Walker Counties
DPS	Tactical Marine Unit	13	6	Activated	Montgomery
DSHS	SOC LNO	1	0	Activated	Austin
DSHS	SOC	1	0	Activated	Austin
DSHS	MIST	2	0	Activated	Austin
DSHS	SWX PKG	21	11	Activated	RELLIS/Bryan
DSHS	MIST	1	1	Activated	RELLIS/Bryan
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Activated	Austin SOC
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Activated	TxDOT HQ
HHSC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
HHSC	DEEOC 16 LNO	1	0	Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon A	10	5	Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon B	10	5	Assigned	Conroe
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon C	10	5	Activated	Huntsville
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQ	10	4	Activated	Houston
TMD	UH-60 Blackhawk	6	1	Assigned	College Station
TMD	SOC Support	4	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	UH-60 Blackhawk	6	1	Activated	College Station
TMD	MDC DDC 13	1	0	Assigned	Bryan
TMD	MDC DDC 14	1	0	Assigned	Lufkin
TMD	MDC DDC 15	1		Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	MDC DDC 16	1		Assigned	Houston
TPWD	SOC Liason	2	2	Assigned	SOC
TPWD	Liason DDEOC 16	1	1	Assigned	DDEOC 16 Houston
TPWD	Game Wardens	42	42	Assigned	Polk, Angelina, Tyler, Liberty, Milam, Chambers, Harris, Galveston, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Brazoria, Walker, Jasper Counties
TPWD	SAR Team	16	16	Assigned	Livingston, Milam, Lampasas, Bexar, Wichita Counties
TPWD	Shallow/Swift Water Boats			Assigned	Livingston, Milam, Lampasas,

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
					Bexar, Wichita Counties
TPWD	Airboat			Assigned	Polk, Angelina, Tyler, Liberty, Milam, Chambers, Harris, Galveston, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Brazoria, Walker, Jasper Counties
TPWD	State Park Officers	1	1	Assigned	Lake Livingston State Park
TPWD	UAS Operator	1	1	Assigned	Livingston, TX

**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-3

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