



## Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

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### New Information is in Blue Text

<b>Event Name</b>	<b>24-0014 26APR Severe Weather</b>
<b>Date</b>	May 9, 2024
<b>Time</b>	10:00 AM
<b>Operational Period</b>	8:00 AM May 8 to 8:00 AM May 9, 2024
<b>Report Number</b>	8

<b>Regions Affected</b>	
<b>TDEM Regions Affected</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, & 8
<b>DDs Active</b>	13, 14, 15 & 16

### STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

On May 7, Governor Abbott further [amended the Disaster Proclamation](#) for severe storms and flooding that began on April 26. Additional counties included are Clay, Coleman, Eastland, and Mills Counties.

On May 6, Governor Abbott held a briefing with state and local officials and provided an update on the state's ongoing response to severe weather and flooding conditions impacting East Texas communities during a press conference in Conroe.

At the press conference, the Governor pledged Texas' continued support to communities that need assistance recovering from these storms and urged impacted Texans to report their damage using the TDEM [Individual State of Texas Assessment Tool \(iSTAT\)](#) tool. Additionally, the Governor thanked the brave first responders and emergency management personnel who are working around-the-clock to protect their fellow Texans.

Communities impacted by severe weather and flooding conditions are encouraged to complete TDEM's [iSTAT](#) self-reporting damage survey to help state and local officials identify damages and determine the state's eligibility for federal and disaster assistance. The survey is available in both English and Spanish and can be accessed by visiting [damage.tdem.texas.gov](http://damage.tdem.texas.gov).

On May 2, Governor Abbott [expanded the state's disaster declaration](#) to include 59 additional counties in areas at-risk for severe weather and flooding, with the

updated disaster declaration covering 88 counties in total. At the Governor's direction, state agencies continue to support requests for state assistance.

On May 1, Governor Greg Abbott announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved his request for a disaster declaration 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 disaster declaration 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 announced that he directed 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 decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

**NWS Flood Gauges:** as of 4:00 AM, May 8.

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

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

### **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 5 – Mt. Pleasant (Includes Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus Counties)

DDEOC-5 activated to Level III (Increased Readiness) on May 8<sup>th</sup> due to the severe weather threat.

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

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, Walker County reported there were two water rescues performed. On May 8, TDEM will send preliminary damage assessment teams to conduct iSTAT and pSTAT in Walker County.

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

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

On May 5, the Lake Limestone gates were opened for a release of 17,560 cfs of water. Rising water conditions could occur in the communities along the Navasota River in Limestone, Robertson, Leon, Madison, Brazos, and Grimes Counties.

**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.

**Incident Support Task Force (ISTF):** ISTF assigned [five](#) personnel to the SOC. Two ISTF members were re-assigned to the San Jacinto County EOC and three ISTF members were assigned to the Liberty County EOC. [One ISTF member has deployed to Polk County to support Long Term Recovery.](#)

**Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension (AgriLife):** AgriLife is monitoring river levels for potential livestock rescue and shelter needs in Southeast Texas and Lampasas, Bosque, Hamilton, and Coryell counties. The AgriLife SOC Liaison distributed the TCEQ Carcass Disposal Guidelines to DAR Agents in the field after dead livestock was seen floating along the Lampasas and Bosque Rivers. A STAR

was filled to activate up to 20 DAR Agents to assist with damage assessments. Two DAR Agents have been deployed to DD 23 and [four](#) DAR Agents are in DD 11 to assist with damage assessments.

[As of May 8](#), there have been [95](#) entries from the iSTAT portal with damages to fencing, crops, livestock, and equipment. [24](#) requests are for assistance from the AgriLife Extension Service. County Extension Agents in affected counties will contact landowners to provide assistance.

**Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT):** The Lufkin strike team was able to assist with damage assessments using drones yesterday for TDEM. TX-PWRT continues to work with our state partner TCEQ with monitoring and making contacts with water and or wastewater systems that may be experiencing outages. [TX-PWRT strike teams are in Houston, Lufkin, and Beaumont. On May 9, the strike teams will be reduced to one team and will be relocated to Conroe.](#)

**Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1):** TX-TF1 has a mission ready packing (MRP) of six Flood Water Boat Squads, comprising 26 personnel from both TXTF2 and TXTF3 in Huntsville.

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS):** Additionally, TAMFS continues to support the current severe weather operational period, with Forest Service and All Hazard IMT personnel assisting the Montgomery County EOC and will stand-by standby to provide additional resource support as needed. [TAMFS has increased response capability throughout TDEM Regions 1, 5, 6, and 7, by implementing State Engine Strike Teams and four Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid Strike Teams to TDEM Region 1. Aviation resources supporting TAMFS include Large Air Tankers, Single Engine Air Tankers, and Air Attacks Units.](#)

**Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team (VET):** TAMU VET submitted a final report and stated they have been released from the Texas A&M Task Force.

**Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):** On May 6, livestock reported lost in Lampasas County were later discovered by TAHC and AgriLife agents. The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) or the local Sheriff's office will help with the identification of lost livestock. [As of May 8, Montgomery County shelter has six stray goats, and three horses were claimed by the owners. San Jacinto County has 43 dogs and 20 cats in the shelter.](#)

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** TCEQ has staff available to respond to any air, water, or waste related issues, including drinking water and wastewater issues and/or emergency response activities. TCEQ is tracking [26](#) drinking water systems that are on a Boil Water Notice (BWN) affecting [21,662](#) residents.

**Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ):** As of May 7, TDCJ Ellis Unit in Walker County is no longer taking in water from the Trinity River and there are no immediate threats. Multiple Agricultural Operations Units sustained bridge, fence, road, barn, levee, and crop field damage, and a \$550,930.00 crop loss was estimated. [The staff and inmate population remain unaffected by the flooding as water levels recede.](#)

**Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS):** The DPS Tactical Marine Unit (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 6, DPS Dallas Aviation was conducting routine reconnaissance when they received a radio report about a vehicle with two individuals and a dog on the roof of a jeep. DPS Aviation self-dispatched to the area and coordinated with the Ennis Fire and Rescue Swift Water Team. DPS Aviation arrived before the Swift Water Team and was informed by a local Trooper about hazardous power lines near the victims. DPS Aviation deemed an aerial rescue as unsafe and landed, rigged a hoist for potential rescue in case of emergency, and relayed information to the arriving Swift Water Team. The Ennis Fire and Rescue Swift Water Team subsequently arrived and successfully rescued the victims.

**Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):** DSHS has LNO's assigned to the SOC and an Ambulance Strike Team (AST) in Hardin County. On May 6, DSHS extended Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Severe Weather Package (SWX PKG) to May 13 and the Catastrophic Medical Operations Center (CMOC) was extended to May 8. The Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (TDAP) vaccine will be delivered on May 7, to Montgomery County.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):** TxDOT has assigned an LNO to support the SOC and has crews are performing damage assessments on the roads and bridges. On May 8, 35 state roads remained impacted by flooding including 25 road closures. TxDOT is coordinating with Walker County for Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP). [TxDOT crews have begun repairs on United States Highway \(US\) 84, State Highway \(SH\) 6, and Farm-to-Market \(FM\) 2412. TxDOT is planning repairs to FM 787, in Liberty County, near the Trinity River. TxDOT has received STARs from several counties to assist with roadway materials.](#)

**Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC):** DDEOC 16 has HHSC supporting 24-hour operations. Regulatory Services reported minimal impacts to four long term care facilities. One facility suffered structural damage, and the residents have been relocated to a hotel.

**Texas Military Department (TMD):** TMD has a SOC Support Team in Austin and Military District Coordinators as liaison officers to facilitate situational awareness and communications. TMD has activated three Ground Transportation Platoons (GTP), one Ground Transportation Company Headquarters (GTCHQ), and two UH-60s with Crews. Two GTPs are staged in Houston, one GTP in Huntsville, and the Rotary Wing Medium are staged in Conroe and San Antonio with two TX TF-1 Rescue Swimmers on each aircraft. A total of 65 personnel, 19 vehicles, and two aircraft have been activated 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 person is assigned to assist DDEOC 16 in Houston.

In Polk County, TPWD Game Wardens in Polk County continue to assess local flooding, monitor calls, and assist local emergency personnel with evacuations. In Liberty County, TPWD Game Wardens and State Park Police rescued 10 adults and seven pets. The communities of Moss Bluff, Knights Forest, and Trinity River Estates have patrols to inform residents of a potential river rise. On the Madison and Walker County line, TPWD Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers Madison/Walker County performed an evacuation of two elderly adults and six pets.

As of May 8, TPWD has performed 260 rescues, 144 evacuations, 117 animal evacuations for a total of 521 responses.

**Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUC):** On May 4, utilities are returning to normal operations and Entergy expects to complete restorations.

**Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR):** The DIR has one staff member deployed to the SOC. DIR continues to monitor the clear and dark web for threats related to this weather activation. No credible threats have been observed.

**American Red Cross (ARC):** ARC has seven shelters open with a census of 145 people as of May 7. An Incident Management Team (IMT) has deployed a basecamp and a field kitchen to Houston. The ARC has distributed 4,170 snacks and 3,066 meals as of May 8.



**The Salvation Army (TSA):** TSA is conducting a feeding operation in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Texas Convention (SBTC) at The Salvation Army Houston Area Command Warehouse. TSA will stage two feeding units in Conroe to serve the Huntsville and Cold Spring areas. The Salvation Army has an IMT in Houston. On May 4, TSA is providing community feeding operations at the Santa Fe Admin Building, 1680 CR 3549, Cleveland TX. [TSA now has mobile feeding units in Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, and Walker counties. TSA has set up a base camp operation with the Southern Baptist Texas Convention Kitchen in Houston. The Field kitchen operations is providing 3,500 meals daily.](#)

As of May 8, 4,953 meals, 275 snacks and 3,289 drinks have been distributed.

**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 and set up on May 5. On May 6, windshield survey began, one shower unit was deployed to Liberty, TX, one QRU demobilized, and one QRU remaining in Houston.

[Shower units were deployed to 318 San Jacinto St., at the Jack Hartel Building, in Liberty, TX. Shower and laundry units were deployed to 255 Live Oak St., at the San Jacinto County Shelter, in Coldspring, TX.](#)

**STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED**

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM	Mass Care ESF6	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	DRTF HQ staff	3	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF Members	2	0	Assigned	Trinity County EOC
TDEM	ISTF Members	2	0	Assigned	San Jacinto County EOC
<a href="#">TDEM</a>	<a href="#">ISTF Members</a>	<a href="#">3</a>	<a href="#">0</a>	<a href="#">Assigned</a>	<a href="#">Liberty County EOC</a>
<a href="#">TDEM</a>	<a href="#">ISTF Members</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">0</a>	<a href="#">Assigned</a>	<a href="#">Polk County</a>
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	Beaumont, Houston, and Lufkin
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	7	0	Assigned	Hamilton, Lampasas, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, and Walker Counties
AgriLife	IST Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Rellis



Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
AgriLife	DAR Agents - Damage Assessments	2	1	Assigned	DD 23
AgriLife	DAR Agents - Damage Assessments	4	3	Enroute	DD11
TAMFS	DZR, TPL, MTGR	11	0	Activated	Amarillo
TAMFS	TPL, MTGR, SEATs, Air Attack	5	4	Activated	Dumas
TAMFS	DZR	2	0	Activated	Childress
TAMFS	DZR	3	0	Activated	Lubbock
TAMFS	DZR	6	0	Activated	Alice
TAMFS	ENG, TPL	10	0	Activated	Edinburg
TAMFS	ENG, DZR	11	0	Activated	Uvalde
TAMFS	TF	4	0	Activated	Edinburg
TAMFS	ST, SEATs, Air Attack	27	4	Activated	Alpine
TAMFS	TF, EMTF, REM	33	4	Activated	Ft. Stockton
TAMFS	TF	11	1	Activated	San Angelo
TAMFS	(2) TIFMAS STs 146 & 147			En-Route	Dumas
TAMFS	(2) TIFMAS STs 144 & 145 and EMTF			En-Route	Amarillo
TAMFS	AHIMT LNO	2	0	Released	DDEOC 16
TAMFS	AHIMT LNO	8	0	Assigned	DDEOC 16c
TAMFS	AHIMT LNO	3	0	Released	DDEOC 15
TAMFS	AHIMT LNO	4	0	Released	DDEOC 14
TX-PRWT	SOC LNO	2	1	Assigned	SOC Austin
TX-PWRT	ESF 3 LNO	1	1	Assigned	DDEOC 15 - Beaumont
TX-PWRT	Team 1	5	3	Assigned	Houston
TX-PWRT	Team 2	6	2	Assigned	Beaumont
TX-PWRT	Team 3	7	2	Assigned	Lufkin
TX-TF1	Type 4 US&R	28	12	Activated	Brazos County
TX-TF1	HSART Rescue Swimmers	2	0	Activated	Montgomery County
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad	6	4	Activated	Hardin County
TX-TF1	HPV	4	2	Activated	Polk County
TX-TF2/ TX-TF3	Water MRP	26	0	Assigned	Montgomery County
DIR	SOC LNO	1	0	Activated	Austin SOC
DPS	SOC	2	2	Assigned	Austin
DPS	Helicopters w/Hoist	9	3	Activated	Austin, Dallas, Houston

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
DPS	Tactical Marine Unit	23	8	Activated	Montgomery
DSHS	SOC LNO	1	0	Activated	Austin
DSHS	SOC	1	0	Activated	Austin
DSHS	MIST	2	0	Activated	Austin
DSHS	SWX PKG (1xAST - Lumberton, 1xAST - Grand Prairie)	21	11	Activated	RELLIS/Bryan/Lumberton Grand Prairie
DSHS	MIST	1	1	Activated	RELLIS/Bryan
DSHS	CMOC	8	0	Released	Houston
DSHS	SWX PKG	21	11	Activated	TDEM IST/Rellis/Bryan
HHSC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
HHSC	DDEOC 16 LNO	1	0	Assigned	Houston
PUC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TAHC	SOC Representative	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TAHC	TAHC Emergency Management	1	0	Available, On-Call	Virtual
TAHC	TAHC Emergency Management	1	1	Available, On-Call	Walker County
TAHC	Livestock Inspectors	4	4	Available, On-Call	TDEM Region 3/4/8
TAHC	Regional Manager	1	1	Available, On-Call	Erath County
TAHC	Veterinarian	1	1	Released	Erath County
TCEQ	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TCEQ	DDEOC 16 Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Houston
TDCJ	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon A	10	5	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon B	10	5	Assigned	Conroe
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon C	10	5	Assigned	Houston/Beaumont
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQ	14	4	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	UH-60 Blackhawk	6	1	Assigned	Conroe

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TMD	UH-60 Blackhawk	6	1	Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	SOC Support	4	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	MDC DDEOC 13	1	0	Released	Bryan
TMD	MDC DDEOC 14	1	0	Released	Lufkin
TMD	MDC DDEOC 15	1	0	Released	Beaumont
TMD	MDC DDEOC 16	2	0	Released	Houston
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	DDEOC 16	1	1	Assigned	Houston
TPWD	Game Wardens	21	21	Assigned	Polk, Trinity, Leon, Tyler, Liberty, Madison, San Jacinto, Montgomery, Walker Counties
TPWD	SAR Team	4	4	Assigned	Liberty County
TPWD	Shallow/Swift Water Boats	0	3	Assigned	Livingston, Milam, Jack, and Mills Counties
TPWD	Airboat	0	7	Assigned	Polk, Trinity, Leon, Tyler, Liberty, Madison, San Jacinto, Montgomery, Walker Counties
TPWD	State Park Officers	9	9	Assigned	Polk, Trinity, Leon, Tyler, Liberty, Madison, San Jacinto, Montgomery, Walker Counties
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Activated	Austin SOC
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Activated	TxDOT HQ
TSA	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TSA	Feeding Unit	2	0	Assigned	Walker County Shelter
TSA	Feeding Unit	2	1	Assigned	Plum Grove/Liberty County
TSA	IMT	5	0	Assigned	Dallas / Ft. Worth
TSA	Mobile Feeding Units	16	8	Activated	Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, and Walker Counties

**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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