

Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	24-0014 26APR Severe Weather
Date	May 14, 2024
Time	10:00 AM
Operational Period	8:00 AM May 13 to 8:00 AM May 14, 2024
Report Number	13

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

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

On May 7, Governor Abbott further <u>amended the Disaster Proclamation</u> 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 <u>Individual State of Texas Assessment Tool (iSTAT)</u> 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 <u>iSTAT</u> 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 is both English and Spanish and can be accessed by visiting <u>damage.tdem.texas.qov</u>.

On May 2, Governor Abbott <u>expanded the 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. 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 <u>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 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 14

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

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

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 8th 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: As of May 9, the mandatory evacuations were lifted in Polk County. County officials are planning a phased re-entry for homeowners.

Trinity County: As of May 9, the mandatory evacuations were lifted in Trinity County.

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

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)

DDEOC 16: Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) operations in New Caney and Conroe will end May 10, and TAMFS personnel will be released at end of shift. One TAMFS and five AHIMT personnel remain in Montgomery County.

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

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

Calhoun County: On May 13, approximately 10 RVs overturned by the high winds in Port Lavaca.

DD 18 – San Antonio (Includes Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, McMullen, Medina, and Wilson Counties)

Guadalupe County: On May 9, reports of significant damage due to a suspected tornado left over 5,000 residents without power. An Incident Command Post (ICP) was established at York Creek Volunteer Fire Department (VFD), and a shelter was established for 50 residents at the Geronimo Community Center in Seguin.

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

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

On May 12, the <u>Lake Limestone</u> gates were opened for a release of 27,300 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.

DD 13 – Bryan (Includes Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Leon, Madison, Robertson, and Washington Counties)

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): There are two ISTF staff assigned to the SOC with two ESF 6 staff in support. One ISTF members is assigned to San Jacinto County EOC and three ISTF members are 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): The AgriLife SOC Liaison distributed the TCEQ Carcass Disposal Guidelines to Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Agents in the field. A STAR was filled to activate up to 20 DAR Agents to assist with damage assessments. Five DAR teams continue to assist DD-11, DD-14, and DD-15 in completing damage assessments. Three additional teams continue to assist with damage assessments in DD-13 and DD-14. Six DAR teams have been rostered to assist Liberty County to complete damage assessments on May 14. Six DAR teams have been rostered to assist Liberty County to complete damage assessments starting on May 14.

The iSTAT portal has received 184 entries from landowners with damages to fencing, crops, livestock, and equipment. There have been 44 requests for assistance from the AgriLife Extension Service.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT): A drone strike team is staged in Conroe to support local or state requests. The TX-PWRT SOC LNO continues to monitor WebEOC for requests and is working with TCEQ on water/wastewater (W/WW). On May 10, TX-PWRT assigned two boats with operators to evaluate flooded areas in coordination with the Incident Support team (IST) and TX-TF3.

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 TX-TF2 and TX-TF3 in Huntsville.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): 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 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 Attack Units. Saw Crews completed debris clearing in Leon County and were released. TAMFS and All Hazard Incident Management Team finalized a

transition plan for Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management and then were released. TAMFS will keep resources available to agency partners as needed.

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): 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. As of May 13, TCEQ is tracking 11 drinking water systems that are on a Boil Water Notice (BWN) affecting 7,969 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.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS has LNOs assigned to the SOC and an Ambulance Strike Team (AST) in Hardin County. On May 12, DSHS extended the Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Severe Weather Package (SWX PKG) to May 21.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT has assigned an LNO to support the SOC. TxDOT has received STARs from several counties to assist with roadway materials. SH-21 eastbound lanes have been reopened and the westbound lanes will remain closed. On May 13, 40 state-maintained roads remained impacted by weather, with 23 road closures. TxDOT crews and contractors have completed the repairs on US-84 Cowhouse Bridge in Coryell County. Tx-DOT Maintenance and

Bridge crews will perform damage assessments once floodwaters recede, and storm threats have diminished.

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.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD has a SOC Support Team in Austin and has activated three Ground Transportation Platoons (GTP), one Ground Transportation Company Headquarters (GTCHQ), and two UH-60s with Crews. Two GTPs are staged in Huntsville, one GTP in Conroe and one GTP in Houston. The Rotary Wing Medium MRPs will be staged in Martindale with two TX TF-1 Rescue Swimmers on each aircraft. A total of 61 personnel, 19 vehicles, and two aircraft have been activated in support of 24-0014 26APR Severe Weather. TMD Military District Coordinators have been released.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD has returned to normal operations and units remain available to support any mission requests. TPWD has performed 260 rescues, 144 evacuations, and 117 animal evacuations for a total of 521 responses for this incident.

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 situation using cybersecurity tooling and threat intelligence feeds. No cyber threats related to this weather event have been identified. There are no requests for network or technology.

American Red Cross (ARC): ARC has seven shelters open and have sheltered 148 people as on May 13. An Incident Management Team (IMT) has deployed a basecamp and a field kitchen to Houston. The ARC has distributed 6,029 snacks and 8,956 meals as of May 13. ARC teams are conducting damage assessments in Montgomery, Liberty, Harris, Trinity, and Walker Counties.

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 12, 15,802 meals, 1,491 snacks and 9,511 drinks have been distributed.

Southern Baptist Texas Convention (SBTC): Central Baptist Church, Livingston. Site setting up. Incident Management Team, Cleanup and Recovery, Assessments. Units and Teams on site: Command Post/IMT, Recovery, Shower, Laundry, Assessments, Feeding team, Refrigeration Unit.

As of May 11, SBTC has provided 1,800 volunteer hours, 12,520 meals, and 29 showers.

TEXANS ON MISSION (TOM): TOM has two Incident Management Teams (IMT) in Conroe and Kingwood. IMT's have provided electrical support, shower, laundry services, boxes, and meals to residents. Three flood recovery teams arrived in Conroe on May 13. Local flood recovery teams are in Rising Star and will have additional support coming to the area in the next few days. TOM has provided 107 showers, 503 meals, 1,356 boxes, 81 loads of laundry, and 2,784.5 volunteer hours.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM	Mass Care ESF6	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF HQ staff	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF Staff	1	0	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	DAR Strike Team	25	25	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	SOC Liason	1	0	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	Extension Admin	2	0	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	DDEOC 14,15 & 16 Liaisons	3	0	Available	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	Texas A&M RELLIS Campus, Bryan
AgriLife	DAR Agents – Damage Assessments	12	0	Available	DD 16
TAMFS	SEATs, Air Attack	0	4	Activated	Dumas
TAMFS	ENGs, DZR	13	0	Activated	Alice
TAMFS	ENG, DZRs	10	0	Activated	Edinburg
TAMFS	ENG, DZR	8	0	Activated	Uvalde
TAMFS	ST Engs, DZR, Hand Crew,	27	4	Activated	Alpine

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
	SEATs, Air				
	Attack, ASM				
TAMFS	ST Engs, DZR, SEATs, Air	21	5	Activated	Fort Stockton
17 11 10	Attack, ASM			7.00.7000	
TAMFS	ENG, DZRs, Air Attack	10	1	Activated	San Angelo
TAMFS	Tanker	0	2	Activated	Abilene
TAMFS	EMTF, REM	9	0	Activated	Fort Stockton
TAMFS	AHIMT LNO	5	0	Released	DDEOC 16C
TAMFS	Saw Crews	5	0	Assigned	Leon County
TX-PWRT	ESF 3 SOC LNO	3	1	Assigned	SOC Austin
TX-PWRT	ESF 3 Rep	1	0	Assigned	IST-RELLIS
TX-PWRT	PWRT 1	11	9	Assigned	Conroe
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
DPS	Tactical Marine Unit	23	8	Activated	Montgomery
DSHS	SOC LNO	1	0	Assigned	Austin
DSHS	SCO	1	0	Assigned	Austin
DSHS	MIST	2	0	Assigned	Austin
DSHS	MIST	1	1	Assigned	TDEM IST, RELLIS, College Station
DSHS	SWX PKG	21	11	Assigned	TDEM IST, RELLIS, College Station
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

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TAHC	Livestock Inspectors	4	4	Available, On-Call	TDEM Region 3/4/8
TAHC	Regional Manager	1	1	Available, On-Call	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	SOC Support	5	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
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQ	14	4	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	UH-60 Blackhawk (Alamo 00) & (Alamo 02)	12	2	Assigned	Martindale
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	DDEOC 14 Liaison	1	1	Available	Lufkin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Activated	Austin SOC
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	TxDOT HQ
TSA	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TSA	IMT	5	0	Assigned	Dallas / Ft. Worth
TSA	Mobile Feeding Units	14	7	Assigned	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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