



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	24-0014 26APR Severe Weather
Date	May 20, 2024
Time	10:00 AM
Operational Period	8:00 AM May 19 to 8:00 AM May 20, 2024
Report Number	19

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

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On May 19, Governor Greg Abbott directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to request additional counties be added to the Presidential Disaster Declaration for severe weather and flooding that began on April 26.

At the Governor's direction and following a review of damage assessments in additional impacted communities which show they exceed federal criteria for disaster assistance, Texas Emergency Management Chief Nim Kidd has requested the addition of eight counties to become eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance programs. Those additional counties include Calhoun, Eastland, Guadalupe, Hardin, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, and Waller.

Additionally, at the direction of the Governor, Chief Kidd has requested that Harris County become eligible for FEMA's Public Assistance program.

Additional counties may be added to the Governor's request as additional damage assessments are completed in affected communities.

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 03:00 AM, May 20](#)

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

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

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).

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

Tyler County: On May 17, the Tyler County Judge issued a voluntary evacuation order.

Region 4 (Includes DD 16)

DDEOC 16 Houston activated to Level II (Escalated Response Conditions).

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

Austin County: The Austin County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) reports roadways in Bellville have been cleared of debris and the San Bernard Electric Cooperative (Co-op) crews are working to restore power. Bellville ISD will be closed on May 17, and a shelter opened on May 16, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Sealy, TX.

Harris County: On May 16, there were reports of structural damage to homes and businesses in Harris County. Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC) reported that the Cypress Creek Psychiatric Hospital lost power, but it has since been restored. Approximately 900,000 residents in Harris County were reported without power. On May 18, State Highway (SH) 6 north and southbound lanes are closed at Farm-to-Market (FM) 529 due to downed power lines. [The city of Houston has started door-to-door wellness checks for residents on the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry \(STEAR\) that did not respond or requested assistance.](#)

Liberty County: On May 16, in the cities of Cleveland, Kenefick, and Tarkington, debris fell across State Highways (SH) 105 and SH 321. Power outages have affected approximately 9,300 residents throughout Liberty County.

Montgomery County: On May 16, Montgomery County reported up to 47,000 residents without power, and Entergy, CenterPoint, and SHECO (San Houston Electric Cooperative) crews have been working to restore power to the county. Chains saw crews have been dispatched to Montgomery County roadways to remove downed trees. On May 18, FM 1485, over the East Fork of the San Jacinto River, is closed due to flooding. [On May 19, the San Jacinto River Authority reported Lake Conroe Dam discharging 2,665 cubic feet per second \(cfs\).](#)

Walker County: On May 16, Walker County power outages were estimated to have impacted 3,535 residents. Several water rescues were performed, including a school bus. All the students were rescued from the school bus and no injuries were reported. As of May 17, four subdivisions and five state roads are under water. On May 18, the Walker County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will shut down and divert all phone calls to the Walker County Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC).

Waller County: Waller County EOC activated to Level I (Emergency Conditions). On May 16, Waller County reported 98 roadways impacted by debris and 13,775 residents were impacted by power outages. A shelter has been opened, in the city of Hempstead, at the Hempstead Community Center for residents affected by the severe weather.

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.

Communications Coordination Group (CCG):

TDEM Communications Coordination Group (CCG) is monitoring the situation with public, private, and volunteer sectors, and is assessing and adjusting resources for severe weather. Cellular providers are assessing the current situation. AT&T is reporting customers experiencing degraded service in the greater Houston area, and AT&T is working to assess the damage and restore services. The AT&T FirstNet Response Operations Group (ROG) has two on air solutions in Waller County. Carriers are deploying generators and back-up power as needed. The networks have redundancies and overlaps which are mitigating the loss of power in some areas.

The Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) is contacting 911 Public Safety Access Point (PSAP) centers to confirm operational status. Public Safety networks in Harris County have experienced some degradation but are operational. The city of Houston has some issues with the backhaul network but is working on alternative solutions. Most of the issues are related to the loss of primary power and are being mitigated by back-up power sources.

Amateur operator networks providing regional emergency communications support reported no outages or requests for assistance. Coordination is being established between Emergency Support Function (ESF) 2 Communications and ESF 12 Energy, for power restoration to communication locations. Coordination between the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), Office of Statewide Interoperable Communications (TXSWIC), FEMA Region 6 Communications, and private and public partners is ongoing.

Incident Support Task Force (ISTF): There are [two](#) ISTF members assigned to the SOC.

TDEM Private Sector Coordination: TDEM continues to communicate with private sector partners in the affected areas. Quotes have been obtained for leasing 2,300 generators for the city of Houston to power traffic signals.

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. [Eight DAR teams have completed damage assessments in DD-11, DD-13, DD-14, and DD-15.](#) The six DAR teams in the city of Atascocita in Harris County completed iSTAT damage assessments. AgriLife is assisting the San Jacinto County Extension Agent in managing the San Jacinto County animal shelter. Two DAR teams completed iSTAT damage assessments in Liberty County. A DAR Agent is supporting logistics for the RELLIS Incident Support Team (IST) until May 23. [A DAR team is staged in College Station to assist with damage assessments.](#)

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT): The TX-PWRT SOC LNO continues to monitor WebEOC for requests and is working with TCEQ on water/wastewater (W/WW). On May 18, TX-PWRT will be sending a representative to a new IST that is assembling in the city of Houston. [TX-PWRT has completed damage assessments in Waller County and has moved to Conroe to respond to local or state requests.](#)

Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1): TX-TF1 has a mission ready package (MRP) of six Flood Water Boat Squads, comprising 26 personnel from both TX-TF2 and TX-TF3 in Huntsville. On May 15, TX-TF1 crews assisted various agencies with low water crossing and road condition reconnaissance. No additional requests for assistance

were received. TX-TF1 crews will remain pre-positioned in TDEM Regions 2,3,4,6 and 8.

On May 17, TX-TF1 evacuated 10 people, one pet, and assisted three people in TDEM Region 3. In TDEM Region 4, six people were evacuated and 11 confirmed to shelter in place. In TDEM Region 8, six people were confirmed to shelter in place. TX-TF1 Water Group Supervisors are in contact with local and state partners in the affected areas, and members from the Michigan Task Force and South Carolina Task Force will return to their states on May 18.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): TAMFS has Incident Management Teams (IMT) team members supporting DDEOC 16 and is supporting the Resource Staging Area (RSA) at NRG Stadium. Four TIFMAS Strike Teams are supporting three Point of Distribution (POD) sites in Houston and TAMFS saw teams are working with local agencies to open access roads and debris removal.

Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team (VET): On May 15, one Type 4 VET was deployed to the Emergency Animal Shelter at the Coldspring Community Center, in San Jacinto County, is housing 48 dogs, six puppies, and 13 cats.

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. Staff are also available to provide technical assistance and guidance on debris management. As of May 19, TCEQ is tracking 46 drinking water systems that are on a Boil Water Notice (BWN) affecting 25,364 residents.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ): Multiple TDCJ 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 (THP) Tactical Marine Unit (TMU) has rescue specialists assigned to hoist capable helicopters in Austin and Dallas, and flood water boats throughout the state.

The DPS THP TMU deployed two swift water Zodiac boat crews to the Houston area to assist with water rescues and are working with other state and local rescue teams. A TMU representative reported to the IST in RELLIS to coordinate with TX-TF1.

DPS THP Troopers from Conroe and Rosenberg were deployed to assist Troopers in Houston to provide patrols and security to prevent looting due to widespread power outages and storm damage. DPS Troopers are also providing traffic control at intersections where power is out. DPS has personnel staffed at several DDEOCs, RELLIS, and the Houston Police Department (PD) Command Post.

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. Three SWX PKG from EMTFs 2,4,7, and 8 are on standby, and EMTF's 1,9, and 11 are activated for situational awareness. The Catastrophic Medical Operations Center (CMOC) activated and is coordinating with healthcare facilities to assist as needed. [As of May 19, HCA Houston Healthcare North Cypress, and its freestanding emergency departments \(FSED\) remain on generator power.](#)

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT will staff the SOC for day shift from May 16 to May 19 and will operate virtually for the night shift. On May 17, the Pelican Bay Bridge barge and the railroad bridge were removed, and the TxDOT dive team inspected the lower sections of the bridge. Repairs to the vehicle bridge were made on May 16 and May 17. If no issues are found, the bridge will be reopened. TxDOT has filled a local STAR in Hardin County for reclaimed asphalt and pavement (RAP).

[As of May 19, 28 state-maintained roads are impacted by weather, which includes 22 road closures. TxDOT has mobilized 23 traffic crews to assist with the 30 remaining traffic signals needing repairs, and 100 traffic signals are operating on generator power. TxDOT submitted a State of Texas Assistance Request \(STAR\) for 75 generators that will be delivered on May 20.](#)

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC): HHSC is remotely supporting the State Operations Center. On May 16, two staff members deployed to Liberty County to assist with damage assessments. HHSC has activated contingency contracts for emergency water and ice, [and two purchases have been made for 10 trucks of water and five trucks of ice. As of May 19, seven Long-Term Care \(LTC\) facilities are reporting power outages.](#)

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. One GTP is staged in Huntsville, one GTP in Woodville and one GTP in Shepherd. The Rotary Wing Medium is staged in Martindale with two TX TF-1 Rescue Swimmers on each aircraft. A total of 62 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 assigned two liaisons to the SOC, one liaison to DDEOC 14 Lufkin, two liaisons to DDEOC 16 Houston, and additional personnel and equipment are activated to respond to affected areas as needed. TPWD has performed 261 rescues, 144 evacuations, and 117 animal evacuations for a total of 522 responses for this incident.

Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUC): On May 17, statewide power outages peaked at approximately 1,050,000. [Approximately 6,000 additional personnel, through mutual assistance agreements, have arrived and are engaged in power restoration efforts. As of May 19, there are approximately 325,000 power outages and 315,000 of the power outages are in CenterPoint territory. CenterPoint expects the bulk of the power restoration to be completed by May 22, and CenterPoint has provided a map of the expected restoration dates.](#)
<http://centerpointenergy.com/StormCenter>.

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 support.

American Red Cross (ARC): [As of May 19, the ARC has six shelters open with a population of 161. An Incident Management Team \(IMT\) has deployed a basecamp and a field kitchen to Houston. The ARC has distributed 9,142 snacks and 17,671 meals as of May 19. The ARC is supporting cooling centers in the city of Houston. ARC teams are conducting damage assessments in Harris, Polk, and San Jacinto 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 are providing 3,500 meals daily. As of May 15, 20,107 meals, 8,331 snacks and 11,205 drinks have been distributed.

Southern Baptist Texas Convention (SBTC): A site is being set up at Central Baptist Church in Livingston to include an Incident Management Team, Cleanup and Recovery Team, and damage assessments. Additional teams on site include shower, laundry, feeding team, and refrigeration unit. As of May 16, SBTC has provided 3,640 volunteer hours, 19,913 meals, and 119 showers.

TEXANS ON MISSION (TOM): TOM has two Incident Management Teams (IMT) in Conroe and Kingwood. The TOM flood recovery team in Conroe will demobilize on May 18, and the remaining work orders will be completed by the Katy-Montgomery team. IMT's have provided electrical support, shower, laundry services, boxes, and meals to residents. 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 277 showers, 1,168 meals, 751 boxes, 245 loads of laundry, and 5,910.5 volunteer hours as of May 16.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM	Mass Care ESF6	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF HQ staff	0	0	Released	Austin
TDEM	ISTF Staff	1	0	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	DAR Strike Team	12	12	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	Extension Admin	2	0	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	DDEOC 16 Liaison	2	0	Available	Houston
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	7	0	Available	Hamilton, Lampasas, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, and Walker Counties
AgriLife	IST Liaison	1	0	Assigned	RELLIS
AgriLife	IST Logistics	1	1	Assigned	RELLIS
AgriLife	DAR Agents – Damage Assessments	10	10	Assigned	College Station
Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team	Type 4 VET	7	5	Assigned	Coldspring
TAMFS	SOC Support	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TAMFS	AHIMT	4	0	Assigned	Region 4
TAMFS	DDEOC/RSA Support	8	0	Assigned	Region 4
TAMFS	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC Austin
TAMFS	Saw Crews	6	0	Assigned	Houston

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TAMFS	TIFMAS POD Support	24	0	Assigned	Region 4
TX-PWRT	ESF 3 SOC LNO	2	1	Assigned	SOC Austin
TX-PWRT	ESF 3 Rep	1	0	Assigned	IST-RELLIS
TX-PWRT	PWRT 1	10	9	Assigned	Conroe
TX-TF1	HSART Rescue Swimmers	3 2	0	Assigned	Brazos And Bexar Counties
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad	6	4	Assigned	Wharton County WS Fort Worth
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad	6	4	Assigned	Tyler County WS Hurst/STRAC
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad	6 2	4 1	Assigned	Leon County WS El Paso WGS 2
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad	6	4	Assigned	Freestone County WS Austin
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad	6	4	Assigned	Caldwell and Guadalupe Counties WS Killeen
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad	6	2	Assigned	Bexar County WS San Antonio
TX-TF1	Type 4 US&R	28	12	Assigned	Brazos County
TX-TF1	Tx-TF1	17 2	5 1	Assigned	Walker County WGS 1
TX-TF1	NC-TF1	16	5	Assigned	Jefferson County
TX-TF1	SC-TF2	16	4	Assigned	Montgomery County
TX-TF1	TX-TF2 MRP	20	6	Assigned	Dallas County
TX-TF1	TN-TF2	16	4	Assigned	Hardin County
TX-TF1	TX-TF1	6	4	Assigned	Jasper County WS Gainesville
TX-TF1	TX-TF1	6	4	Assigned	Liberty County WS Conroe
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

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
DSHS	MIST	2	0	Assigned	Austin
DSHS	MIST	1	1	Assigned	TDEM IST, RELIS, College Station
DSHS	SWX PKG	21	11	Assigned	TDEM IST, NRG RSA Houston
DSHS	CMOC	8	0	Assigned	Houston
DSHS	AST	11	6	Assigned	Houston
DSHS	MIST	1	1	Assigned	Houston
HHSC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
HHSC	DDEOC 16 Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Houston
PUC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TAHC	DAR Strike Team	26	6	Activated	College Station
TAHC	SOC Representative	1	0	Available, On-Call	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 Regions 3, 4 & 8
TAHC	Regional Manager	1	1	Available, On-Call	Erath County
TCEQ	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDCJ	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	SOC Support	6	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon A	10	5	Assigned	Woodville
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon B	10	5	Assigned	Shepherd
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon C	10	5	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon HQ	14	4	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	UH-60 Blackhawk (Alamo 74)	6	1	Assigned	Martindale
TMD	UH-60 Blackhawk (Alamo 62)	6	1	Assigned	Martindale
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TPWD	DDEOC 14 Liaison	1	1	Available	Lufkin
TPWD	DDEOC 16 Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Houston
TPWD	Game Wardens	12	12	Available	Bell, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, Smith, Walker Counties
TPWD	SAR Team	6	6	Available	Bell, Polk, Smith, Walker
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	TxDOT HQ
TSA	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TSA	IMT	5	0	Assigned	Dallas / Fort Worth
TSA	SBTC Mobile Field Kitchen	0	1	Assigned	Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, and Walker Counties
TSA	Mobile Feeding Units	6	3	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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