



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	25-0001 Wildfire Season 2025
Date	March 8, 2025
Time	10:00 AM
Operational Period	8:00 AM March 7 to 8:00 AM March 8, 2025
Report Number	4

Regions Affected	
TDEM Regions Affected	1, 3, & 5
DDs Active	19, 20, & 21

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

On March 7, Governor Abbott [announced](#) that he directed TDEM to request officials from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) join state and local partners to conduct joint preliminary damage assessments in South Texas communities impacted by recent wildfires. These assessments will aid in determining whether Texas meets the threshold for additional federal disaster assistance.

On March 5, Governor Abbott [announced](#) that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved the state's request for Fire Management Assistance Grants for the Welder Fire in San Patricio County and the Duke Fire in Bexar County.

On March 4, Governor Abbott [directed](#) the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to elevate the readiness level of the Texas State Emergency Operations Center (SOC) to Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) as the state braced for extremely critical wildfire conditions and severe weather threats. The Governor also added 33 counties to the state's wildfire disaster declaration, which now totals 236 counties impacted by increased fire weather conditions.

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.

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

DD 1 – Amarillo (Includes Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Stonewall, Swisher, and Wheeler Counties):

Stonewall County: [The Double Fork fire burned 216 acres and is contained.](#)

DD 2 – Lubbock (Includes Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry, and Yoakum Counties)

Disaster District Emergency Operations Center (DDEOC) 2: [returned to Level IV on March 5 at 9:30 PM.](#)

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):

Lamar County: [The Lamar 0930 fire burned 17 acres and is contained.](#)

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

Anderson County: [The Anderson 0934 fire burned 26 acres and is contained.](#)

Cherokee County: [The Cherokee 0874 fire burned 10 acres and is contained.](#)

Panola County: [The Panola 0873 fire burned two acres and is contained.](#)

Region 5 (Includes DDs 19-21)

DD 19 – Laredo (Includes Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb, and Zapata, Counties)

DDEOC 19: activated to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) on March 3 at 5:00 PM.

DD 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio Counties):

DDEOC 20: [has reduced to Level III \(Increased Readiness Conditions\) on March 7.](#)

Duval County: [The Red Rose fire burned 572 acres and is contained.](#)

San Patricio County: The Railway fire has burned 718 acres and is 95% contained. The Welder Complex fire has burned 803 acres and is 95% contained.

DD 21 – Weslaco (Includes Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties)

DDEOC 21: [activated to Level III \(Increased Readiness Conditions\) on March 3.](#)

Hidalgo County: [The Brush Line fire burned 58 acres and is contained.](#)

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM):

Mass Care: TDEM partners are adapting to the evolving conditions and are ensuring community needs are met while prioritizing safety. Local agencies continue to support feeding and assess recovery efforts as [it transitions to community resources to meet the needs of residents.](#)

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife): Two AgriLife SOC liaisons (LNO) are monitoring fire and severe weather conditions. AgriLife has one Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Specialist serving as an LNO on the Incident Management Team stationed in Merkel. There are 25 DAR specialists, and a County Extension Deployment Team member on standby to support animal response or other fire weather response efforts. DDEOC Liaisons are on standby (virtually) to provide support if requested.

AgriLife Marketing and Communications has distributed preparedness information and educational resources to support county agents, specialists and agency communications channels in preparation for the Wildfire and Severe Weather by providing updated information through the agency's social media channels as well as our county agent network to support local governments and constituents with preparedness education/resources.

The DAR Public Information Officer continues to participate in weather calls and represented AgriLife Extension on the State Communications Council providing updates on messaging, social media outreach and other communications needs.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): TAMFS has firefighting resources positioned in all TDEM Regions. Air Tankers, Attack helicopter aircraft, Single Engine Airtankers (SEAT), heavy equipment and engines are positioned throughout the state. TAMFS has activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in College Station. Texas Intrastate

Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) strike teams are in Amarillo, Lubbock, Merkel, San Angelo, Ozona, Brownwood, Kerrville, Silverton, Burkburnett, Childress, Waco, McGregor, Uvalde, Alice, and Beeville.

For information about active and recently contained wildfires, visit the Texas A&M Forest Service Incident Viewer: <https://public.tfswildfires.com/>. For information about the Current Wildfire Situation, visit <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/CurrentSituation>.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD is providing direct support to TAMFS with aerial fire suppression capability in response to critical fire weather. TMD has released one of two Rotary Wing Medium Mission Ready Packages (MRP), leaving two UH 60 Blackhawk helicopters in San Antonio. One Rotary Wing Heavy MRP consisting of two CH 47 Chinook helicopters staged in Grand Prairie. A SOC Support Team has been assigned to Austin. As of March 6, TMD Rotary Wing aircraft have flown a total of 35.6 hours and dropped a total of 58,765 gallons of water. TMD has activated 29 personnel and four aircraft in support of this incident.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD has prepared department resources consisting of Texas Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers ready to support as needed in response to the increased Wildfire threat throughout the State. TPWD continues to work closely with TDEM and other state and federal partners to ensure TPWD resources and first responders are available. TPWD personnel are continuously being advised of the current weather conditions and maintaining a state of readiness. TPWD has the following Statewide resources available to support, one LNO to the SOC, one helicopter in Austin, State Game Wardens, and State Park Police Officers, and All-Terrain Vehicles. TPWD Aviation responded to the Onion Creek Wildfire in Hays County and successfully made 18 water bucket drops (2,070 gallons of water).

Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR): DIR is monitoring the situation using cybersecurity tooling and threat intelligence feeds. Currently, no cyber threats related to this event have been identified.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): As of March 5, there were no state-maintained roads impacted or closed due to weather conditions. TxDOT is sharing wildfire danger messaging across the state on DMS boards and on social media. TxDOT is staffing the State Operations Center during activation. TxDOT supported law enforcement with traffic control, supported the Sinton Welder wildfire with water tankers, and the La Salle Co wildfire firefighters with diesel fuel for equipment. TxDOT crews are out today monitoring roadways and assisting partner agencies. TxDOT crews and emergency staff are rostered and ready to respond statewide.

Check DriveTexas.org for the most current road safety advisories.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS is currently monitoring the situation and ready to deploy resources and respond as the incident requires. DSHS has two LNOs assigned to the SOC.

Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): EMTF has activated one Medical Incident Management Team (MIST) and one State Coordination Organization (SCO) personnel. EMTF has activated 34 personnel and 24 assets for this incident.

American Red Cross (ARC): The ARC is on standby to respond to needs arising from expected fire weather and other disasters in Texas. As of March 6, the ARC is supporting one shelter at the San Patricio County Fairgrounds & Event Center. In North Texas, Disaster Emergency Supplies (DES) were delivered to eight counties that included 217 snacks, 77 bottles of water, 24 totes, 28 pairs of gloves, [24 hand sanitizers](#), 98 face masks, 17 tarps, and 18 boxes of trash bags. [The ARC delivered 60 dinners to the shelter in Irving.](#) The ARC will continue to perform damage assessments when conditions permit. [Shelter teams will assist clients with shelter transition.](#) [ARC volunteers completed disaster assistance for Sinton County.](#)

The Salvation Army (TSA): On March 5, TSA of San Antonio Rapid Response unit supported first responders for the Calaveras fire with 176 meals, 75 snacks, and 103 drinks. TSA of Beeville supported first responders and those affected by the Welder Complex fires by providing food, snacks, and water.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM	Mass Care	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF HQ Staff	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	VOAD	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TAMFS	Firefighting Resources		76	Assigned	Statewide
TAMFS	TIFMAS ST		79	Assigned	TDEM Regions 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8
TAMFS	(4) Large Air Tankers; (1) Air Supervision Module; (1) Air Attack		6	Assigned	Abilene
TAMFS	Air Attack		1	Assigned	Amarillo
TAMFS	Fire Bosses		3	Assigned	Brownwood
TAMFS	SEATs		3	Assigned	Dumas
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Assigned	Eastland
TAMFS	SEATs		3	Assigned	Fort Stockton
TAMFS	(3) SEATs; (1) Air Attack		4	Assigned	Fredericksburg
TAMFS	Type 3 Helicopter		1	Assigned	Huntsville

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TAMFS	Type 3 Helicopter		1	Assigned	Lufkin
TAMFS	(3) SEATs; (2) Super Scoopers		5	Assigned	Mineral Wells
TAMFS	Air Attack		1	Assigned	Odessa
TAMFS	(3) SEATs; (1) T1 Helicopter		4	Assigned	Vernon
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	2	1	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	DAR Specialist for IMT	1	1	Released	Merkel
AgriLife	PIO	1		Assigned	College Station
EMTF	[1] MEDL; [1] Tech Spec; [1] WPU; [1] AST Ambulance	4	4	Activated	Jim Wells County
EMTF	[1] Area Med; [1] MEDL; [1] Tech Spec; [1] WPU; [1] AST Ambulance	5	1	Activated	Brown County
EMTF	SCO	1	1	Activated	SOC
EMTF	[1] MEDL; [1] Tech Spec; [1] WPU; [1] AST Ambulance	4	4	Activated	Lubbock County
EMTF	[1] MEDL; [1] Tech Spec; [1] WPU; [1] AST Ambulance	4	4	Activated	Crockett County
EMTF	MIST	1	1	Activated	TAMFS EOC
EMTF	[1] MEDL; [1] Tech Spec; [1] WPU; [1] AST Ambulance	4	4	Activated	Kerr County
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	TxDOT District Staff	121	99	Assigned	Statewide
TMD	SOC Support Team	8	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Rotary Wing Medium MRP	8	2	Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	Rotary Wing Heavy MRP	13	2	Assigned	Grand Prairie
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	TPWD Aviation	2	3	Assigned	Austin/Travis County

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>

W. Nim Kidd, MPA, CEM

Chief – Texas Division of Emergency Management
Vice Chancellor for Disaster and Emergency Services
Texas A&M University System

<https://tdem.texas.gov/>

Twitter: @TDEM

(512) 424-2208 (24/7)