

Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	25-0018 26MAR Severe Weather				
Date	March 29, 2025				
Time	10:00 AM				
Operational Period	8:00 AM March 28, 2025, to 8:00 AM March 29, 2025				
Report Number	2				

TDEM Regions Affected	3 & 5
DDs Active	15, 19 & 21

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On March 26, Governor Greg Abbott directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to <u>activate state emergency response</u> resources ahead of increased threats of severe weather and flash flooding in large areas of the state through the weekend.

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 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)

Disaster District Emergency Operations Center (DDEOC) 5: Will activate to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) on March 30 at 12:00 PM.

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

DDEOC 15: Activated to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) on March 28

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 27.

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

DDEOC 20 Corpus Christi: Returned to Level IV (Normal Conditions) on March 29 at 07:00 AM.

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

DDEOC 21 Weslaco: Activated to level II (Escalated Response Conditions) on March 27.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Communications Coordination Group (CCG): There have been minor impacts to cell sites in certain areas. The Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) has contacted Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) supporting the South Texas region to offer assistance if needed. Additionally, DPS Communications and the Statewide Interoperable Communication Office (SWIC) are actively monitoring the situation and remain on standby to provide support upon request. The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) has been overseeing Alerts & Public Warning / IPAWS messages throughout the event, while National Weather Service (NWS) offices have issued several weather alerts and warnings via Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) to cellphones in the affected areas.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Texas A&M Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) and TX-TF3: As of March 28, Task Force personnel have been actively assisting local, state, and federal partners within flooded areas. TX-TF1 has activated two additional swift water boat squads and a water group supervisor package. Water rescue personnel conducted evacuations and assisted with flood-related emergencies on March 28. Teams worked in coordination with local emergency management and public safety officials to ensure efficient resource deployment. Swiftwater Rescue (SWR) and Flood Water Rescue (FWR) Boats Squads with Water Group Supervisors (WGS) assigned. SWR Boat Squads are set to deploy to Beaumont and Huntsville on March 28.

On March 29, TX-TF teams conducted 26 evacuations, rescued three individuals, and evacuated 13 pets/animals. TX-TF teams have conducted a total of 47 evacuations, rescued three individuals, and evacuated 25 pets/animals during the incident.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife): One AgriLife SOC liaison (LNO) is monitoring severe weather conditions. AgriLife has two Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Area Chiefs serving as a Situation Unit Leader (SITL) and Liason Officer (LOFR) on the Incident Management Team stationed in San Antonio. Disaster Assessment and Recovery specialists and County Extension Deployment Team members are on standby to support animal response or other weather response efforts.

As of March 28, six AgriLife Extension DAR Specialists were rostered for additional IMT Support - three for South Texas and three for the North Texas IMT at Grand Prairie.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): The Texas A&M Forest Service is monitoring fire weather conditions and has prepositioned heavy equipment, engines, personnel, 29 fixed-wing aircraft, and six rotor-wing aircraft across all TDEM Regions. Aircraft operations are subject to weather conditions, particularly extreme winds, which are continuously evaluated for safety and effectiveness. Additionally, three TIFMAS Strike Teams (ST) have been assigned to respond to the impacts from severe weather and flooding in South Texas. The Texas A&M Forest Service and TIFMAS are ready to assist with additional requests as needed.

Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS): Texas Department of Public Safety stands ready to respond to requests for assistance due to flooding. TXDPS is actively supporting the state's response to the ongoing severe weather event across multiple DPS Districts, patrolling roadways, monitoring traffic, and assessing road conditions. TXDPS stands by ready to respond to motor vehicle crashes and requests for assistance in response to the severe weather conditions

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): As of March 28, TxDOT has closed six state-maintained roads due to flooding, with over 40 locations still impacted by floodwaters. Crews are responding to debris and downed trees, assisting with road closures and traffic control. TxDOT Communications is actively messaging "Turn Around, Don't Drown" on social media. High-profile equipment and crews are rostered, but none have been activated or placed on standby. TxDOT is staffing the State Operations Center and is ready to respond statewide.

Texas Highway Patrol (THP) Troopers from Weslaco provided traffic control around flooded areas, especially along US 83, and responded to an increased number of crashes. The THP Tactical Marine Unit moved two Zodiac boats from Port Lavaca to the Jim Wells County Fairgrounds in Alice to stage with TTF1, but no assistance requests were received. DPS Aviation has helicopters with hoist capabilities stationed in Austin, Dallas, Edinburg, and Houston, ready for deployment if needed. The THP Chief's office is supporting the State Operations Center by staffing the ESF-13 positions.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD has prepared department resources consisting of Texas Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers ready to respond to the Severe Weather threat for southern Texas. TPWD continues to work closely with TDEM and state and federal partners to ensure TPWD resources are available. Texas Game Wardens assisted a landowner who was stuck in Cameron County. Two Liaison Officers (LNO) have been deployed to the SOC. Two LNOs are assigned to DDEOC 21. One helicopter, Search and Rescue (SAR) boat teams, All-Terrain (4x4) Vehicles, and Swift Water and Shallow boats are ready to respond. One UAS to Hidalgo/Willacy Counties. TPWD UAS Team assisted with flood assessments in Willacy and Hidalgo Counties.

On March 28, TPWD conducted Six (6) evacuations in the La Feria, Harlingen, and Rio Hondo area due to severe flooding. TPWD teams have conducted a total of seven evacuations and rescued one person during the incident.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): Due to potential impacts from incoming severe weather, Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8 has been activated and LNOs have been sent to the SOC. DSHS is currently monitoring the situation and ready to deploy resources. As of March 29, one SWX PKG is supporting Cameron County, with an additional Lite Ambulance Strike Team in Harlingen supporting Hidalgo County. EMTF 6 has one SWX Package on standby due to excessive rainfall.

Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): EMTF has activated one Severe Weather Package (SWX PKG) from EMTF Region 8 and one SWX PKG from EMTF Region 11 is on standby.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD has two (2) Ground Transportation Platoons (GTP) to support severe weather operations. One GTP is staged in Alice and one GTP is staged in Victoria. TMD has activated a Liaison Officer to work with the TDEM IMT in McAllen. A SOC support team has been sent to Austin. As of March 28, TMD has activated 29 personnel and 10 vehicles for this incident.

Incident Support Task Force (ISTF): ISTF Members are rostered and prepared to provide support to jurisdictions affected by the event.

As of March 28, shelters have been opened in response to flooding, supporting rescue efforts and assisting individuals displaced by rising waters impacting homes and road access. Thirteen emergency shelters are operating across Hidalgo, Cameron, and Starr counties, housing 264 individuals overnight. Ongoing assessments are underway to evaluate needs and measure the flooding's impact, ensuring resources and services are effectively adjusted to support local jurisdictions. Mass care resources are being

coordinated to support individuals affected by the incident. Sheltering operations include 13 active sites, currently housing a total of 264 individuals.

Salvation Army: A Salvation Army Divisional IMT will deploy to Harlingen on Saturday, with preparations underway for Mass Feeding Kitchen Operations if a fixed kitchen site cannot be secured. Southern Baptist DR is prepared to assist with kitchen support. Seven (7) canteens are on alert for potential deployment on Saturday and Sunday, while the McAllen Canteen and Port Isabel (Laguna Madre) RRU are operational today. Essential supplies, including clean-up kits, hygiene kits, water, food for 15,000 meals, and two pallets of snacks, will be delivered to the McAllen warehouse on Saturday.

American Red Cross (ARC): The American Red Cross is on standby to respond to needs arising from expected fire weather and Severe Weather in Texas. Shelter and feeding teams are providing support as needed and remain on standby to respond statewide if required. There are three shelters open with two of them being run independently, there are a total of 20 individuals being sheltered.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

	STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED							
Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location			
TDEM	Mass Care ESF6	3	0	Assigned	Austin			
TDEM	ISTF HQ Staff	1	0	Assigned	Austin			
TDEM	VOAD	3	0	Assigned	Austin			
TDEM	IMT	3	0	Assigned	Austin			
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad Dallas/STRAC	6	4	Assigned	Walker County- Conroe			
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad Conroe	6	4	Assigned	Hidalgo County– Mission			
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad Ft Worth	6	4	Assigned	Hidalgo County- Alice			
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad Denton	6	4	Assigned	Jefferson County- Beaumont			
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad San Antonio	6	4	Assigned	Hidalgo County- Mission			
TX-TF1	SWR Boat Squad Washington Co	6	4	Assigned	Victoria County- Victoria			
TX-TF3	FWR Boat Squad TX-TF3	6	4	Assigned	Cameron County- Harlingen			
TX-TF1	WGS Abney	2	1	Assigned	Hidalgo County – Mission			
TX-TF1	WGS Brown	2	0	Assigned	Brazos County			
TX-TF1	TX-TF1 Overhead	3	0	Assigned	Brazos County			
TX-TF1	ESF9 Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Austin			
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin			
AgriLife	DAR Area Chiefs for IMT	2	2	Assigned	San Antonio			
AgriLife	DAR Specialist for IMT Support	6	6	Activated	Grand Prairie South Texas			
AgriLife	DAR PIO	1	0	Activated	College Station			
AgriLife	DAR Admin	2	2	Activated	College Station			
DPS	SOC Support			Assigned	Austin			
DPS	DPS Aviation	12	4	Assigned	Austin, Dallas, Edinburg, Houston			
DPS	Tactical Marine Unit	12	4	Assigned	Port Lavaca, Weslaco			
DSHS	SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Austin			
DSHS	SCO	1	0	Assigned	Austin			
DSHS	MIST	1	0	Assigned	Austin			

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
EMTF	SWX PKG	20	10	Assigned	Cameron County
EMTF	Lite Ambulance Strike Team	7	4	Assigned	Harlingen
TAMFS	SOC	1	1	Assigned	Austin
TAMFS	TAMFS(Field and C/G)	186	50	Assigned	TDEM Regions 1- 8
TAMFS	TIFMAS	89	48	Assigned	TDEM Regions 1,6,8
TAMFS	Aircraft		35	Assigned	TDEM Regions 1- 8
TAMFS	EMTF	21		Assigned	TDEM Regions 1,5,6
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	DDEOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	DDEOC 21
TPWD	TPWD Aviation	2	3	Available	Austin/Travis
TPWD	UAS	1	1	Assigned	TDEM Region 5
TPWD	Game Wardens/ State Park Police	60	80	Available	TDEM Region 5
TPWD	SAR Boat Teams	10	15	Available	McLennan, Bexar, Milam, Lampasas, Smith
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	TxDOT District Staff	120	65	Assigned	Corpus Christi and Pharr Districts
TMD	GTP 01	10	5	Enroute	Alice
TMD	GTP 02	10	5	Enroute	Kingsville
TMD	LNO for IMT	1	0	Enroute	McAllen
TMD	SOC Support Team	8	0	Assigned	Austin

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-2

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