

Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

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Event Name	25-0018 26MAR Severe Weather					
Date	April 9, 2025					
Time	10:00 AM					
Operational Period	8:00 AM April 8, 2025, to 8:00 AM April 9, 2025					
Report Number	13					

TDEM Regions Affected	5
DDs Active	21

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On March 31, Governor Abbott <u>directed</u> the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to request that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials join state and local partners in conducting joint preliminary damage assessments in South Texas communities impacted by recent flooding. These assessments will help determine whether Texas meets the federal threshold for disaster assistance.

On March 29, Governor Greg Abbott <u>issued</u> a disaster declaration for four South Texas counties impacted by rainfall and flooding that continues to affect homes, businesses, and the agricultural industry throughout the region. The counties included in the Governor's declaration are Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy. Additional counties may be added as conditions warrant.

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 5 (Includes DDs 19-21)

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

DDEOC 21 Weslaco: Transitioned to Level III (Escalated Response Conditions) on April 4.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

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

Incident Support Task Force (ISTF): ISTF Members are rostered and prepared to deploy in support of the incident as early as Monday preparation for assignments are underway. Efforts remain focused on aligning partner activities to meet identified needs and support the recovery of affected communities effectively. The ISTF Regional Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL) team is actively supporting community response and identifying key recovery needs, such as food access, debris removal, and muck-outs.

As of April 9, sheltering operations have decreased to one active site, currently housing 12 individuals. Mass Care Feeding has 10 mobile sites consisting of The Salvation Army, World Central Kitchen, and local communities that have provided 8,850 meals.

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 help 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 weather alerts and warnings via Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) to cellphones in the affected areas.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife): On April 6, four DAR specialists demobilized. A total of 140 entries from the State of Texas Assessment Tool portal from landowners with agricultural damage. 41 landowners have requested support from the AgriLife Extension Service. County Extension Agents in the affected areas are actively reaching out to aid as requests are received.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Texas A&M Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) and TX-TF3: On March 31, one Swift Water Boat Squad and one Water Group Supervisor package demobilized. TX-TF teams have conducted a total of 68 evacuations, rescued five individuals, and evacuated 41 pets/animals during the incident.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): As of March 30, two Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) Strike Teams remain in Region 5. The Texas A&M Forest Service and TIFMAS are prepared to support additional requests for assistance.

Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS): 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.

DPS Aircraft Operations Division's Unmanned Aircraft System received a request from TDEM's Operations Technology Division to conduct aerial assessments for damage in Willacy, Hidalgo, Starr, and Cameron Counties. A DPS Aircraft equipped with a hoist deployed to aid in the rescue efforts.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): On March 31, TPWD Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) assisted with flood surveys, delivered medications and supplies to families, and assisted with 17 evacuations, including pets. The TPWD has assigned two liaisons to the State Operations Center (SOC) and two to DDEOC 21. TPWD has statewide resources activated that includes a helicopter based in Austin, State Game Wardens, State Park Police Officers, Search and Rescue (SAR) boat teams, all-terrain vehicles, 4x4 vehicles, and swift water or shallow-running boats. Additionally, one UAS was deployed in Hidalgo and Willacy counties.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): On April 6, one Light Ambulance Strike Team (AST) in Harlingen supporting Hidalgo County demobilized. On March 31, one SWX PKG and one Medical Incident Support Team (MIST) demobilized, one Severe Weather Package (SWX PKG) is supporting Cameron County. EMTF 6 has one SWX Package on standby due to excessive rainfall.

Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): EMTF assets currently activated in support of the severe weather response include: one SWX Package with an Ambulance Strike Team (AST) in Cameron County, one MIST deployed to the RELLIS campus in Brazos County, and one SWX Package at Hensley Field in Dallas County. As of April 5, EMTF 2 and 7 are on awareness, while SWX Packages EMTF 4 and 6 are on standby. SWX PKG Teams have had 191 encounters, treated 148 individuals, and have had 100 transports.

Texas Military Department (TMD): As of April 6, The Texas Military Department (TMD) has activated multiple resources in support of TDEM for ongoing incidents including two Winter Weather Mission Ready Packages (MRPs) staged in Lubbock and Abilene, and four Ground Transport Platoon MRPs positioned in Corsicana, Huntsville, and the Houston area. One Liaison Officer MRP is assigned to the Texas A&M RELLIS Campus. A SOC Support Team is active in Austin.

Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD):

The Salvation Army (TSA): All services have been transitioned to the local Salvation Army units in McAllen and Harlingen. Three Salvation Army mobile feeding units, managed by the McAllen and Harlingen Corps, will continue supporting affected communities as needed. Five mobile feeding units have demobilized and returned home. The SBTC Field Kitchen served its final meal on Saturday and has also demobilized. Ongoing assistance for impacted individuals will now be coordinated through the McAllen and Harlingen Salvation Army locations. TSA has provided 42090 Meals, 622 Clean-Up Kits, 597 Hygiene Kits, 384 Food Boxes, and made 632 ESC Contacts during the incident.

American Red Cross (ARC): The American Red Cross continues to have resources on standby to respond to humanitarian needs arising from expected severe weather and other disasters in Texas. The ARC has one shelter in Cameron County, currently housing 12 individuals. ARC Damage Assessment teams are actively operating in Willacy and Starr Counties, while Disaster Emergency Services (DES) distribution efforts continue in Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy, and Starr Counties. To date, 601 assessments have been completed. DES distribution is ongoing in Cameron, Pharr, and Hidalgo Counties, with support provided to resource centers in both Hidalgo and Cameron Counties. To date, feeding and Disaster Emergency Services (DES) support across Cameron, Willacy, and Hidalgo Counties includes assistance to 1,838 households, distribution of 1,330 additional relief items, 1,834 clean-up kits, 4,325 meals, and 264 shelf-stable meals.

Feeding Texas: Feeding Texas has routed nine truckloads of water, snacks, disaster boxes, and MREs from their network and HEB to the Food Bank of Rio Grande Valley and South Texas Food Bank, ensuring coverage for Cameron, Hidalgo, and Starr Counties.

Texans On Mission (TXM): In response to last week's extensive rains and flooding in the Rio Grande Valley, TXM deployed to First Baptist Church in Weslaco. On April 7, a TXM recovery unit, assessors, and box unit were active in both Hidalgo and Cameron counties. An additional flood recovery unit arrived on site. To date, 443 work orders have been processed, with 407 still pending. TXM has conducted 76 Assessments, completed 1 Tear Out, provided 44 Volunteer Showers, and processed 32 Loads of Laundry for volunteers.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM	Mass Care ESF6	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF HQ Staff	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	VOAD	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	IMT	3	0	Assigned	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TX-TF3	Type FWR Boat Squad		6	Assigned	Cameron County-
	TX-TF3	9			Harlingen
TX-TF1	TX-TF1 Overhead	2	0	Assigned	Brazos County
TX-TF1	ESF9 Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	1 DAR Specialist	1	1	Assigned	McAllen
AgriLife	DAR PIO	1	0	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	DAR Admin	2	2	Activated	College Station
DPS	SOC Support	2	2	Assigned	Austin
DPS	DPS Aviation	12	4	Assigned	Austin, Dallas, Edinburg, Houston
DPS	Tactical Marine Unit	12	4	Assigned	Port Lavaca, Weslaco
DPS	Unmanned Aircraft	1	1	Assigned	Hidalgo County
DSHS	SOC Liaison	2	0	Released	Austin
DSHS	SCO	1	0	Released	Austin
EMTF	SWX PKG	11	8	Assigned	Cameron County
EMTF	SWX PKG	21	5	Assigned	Hensly Field
EMTF	MIST	1		Assigned	RELLIS – Brazos
EMTF	MIST	1		Released	SOC
TAMFS	SOC	1	1	Assigned	Austin
TAMFS	TAMFS (Field and C/G)	201	50	Assigned	TDEM Regions 1-8
TAMFS	TIFMAS	36	10	Assigned	TDEM Region 5
TAMFS	Aircraft		34	Assigned	TDEM Regions 1-8
TAMFS	EMTF	12	6	Assigned	TDEM Regions 1
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	DDEOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	DDEOC 21
TPWD	UAS	1	1	Assigned	TDEM Region 5
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	TxDOT District Staff	60	42	Assigned	TxDOT Districts
TMD	SOC Support Team	8	0	Assigned	Austin

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Level III (Increased Readiness 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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