



**Texas Division of Emergency Management
State Situation Report**

New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	20-0013 August Tropical Weather
Date	October 7, 2020
Time	0800
Operational Period	October 6 to October 7, 2020
Report Number	45

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	2
DDCs Active	None

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: The State of Texas continues to assist Louisiana with sheltering and basic needs, while volunteer organizations active in disaster (VOADs) continue providing recovery assistance to Texas residents who were also affected by Hurricane Laura.

On September 30, Governor Abbott sent a letter to President Donald Trump requesting a major disaster declaration for ten Texas counties to assist in recovery efforts following Hurricane Laura. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) previously granted the state's request for a Federal Emergency Declaration ahead of Hurricane Laura's landfall in Texas.

In his letter, the Governor specifically requested Individual Assistance for individuals and households, crisis counseling, disaster unemployment assistance, disaster case management, disaster legal services, and Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster assistance. The Governor also requested Public Assistance for Debris Removal (Category A), Emergency Protective Measures (Category B), Permanent Work (Categories C-G), and Direct Federal Assistance for the counties of Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, and Shelby. The Governor also requested the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program statewide.

On September 22, Governor Abbott renewed the disaster declaration for Hurricane Laura.

On September 15, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has received federal approval to automatically provide replacement benefits for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients for food lost or destroyed due to Hurricane Laura in eight of the impacted counties: Hardin, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby and Tyler. Those eight counties met federal criteria for mass replacements of benefits based on the severity of storm impacts in their area.

FEMA has approved the emergency declaration for the State of Texas (FEMA-3540-EM) for the counties of Anderson, Angelina, Aransas, Bexar, Bowie, Brazoria, Calhoun, Cameron, Camp, Cass, Chambers, Cherokee, Dallas, Ellis, Fort Bend, Franklin, Galveston, Gregg, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Houston, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Kenedy, Kleberg, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Matagorda, Montgomery, Morris, Nacogdoches, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Panola, Polk, Red River, Refugio, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Shelby, Smith, Tarrant, Titus, Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Wharton, Willacy and Wood for reimbursement for eligible emergency protective measures (Category B), limited to direct Federal assistance and reimbursement for mass care including evacuation and shelter support.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Recovery
2. Sheltering and Mass Care
3. Accurate Damage assessments
4. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
5. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

To view the summaries of disaster declarations, letters to the Governor or Disaster Summary Outlines go to: <https://tdem.texas.gov/disaster-summary-outline-2/>

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS:

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM): The State of Texas State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions. The Daily Operations staff continues to process disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as disseminating severe weather messages, preparing Snapshots and the State SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the alternate State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners to assist with any unmet needs and resources.

TDEM Mass Care / Disaster Recovery Task Force: TDEM Mass Care continues to coordinate the state-supported non-congregate shelter mission. Evacuees remain in non-congregate shelters throughout the state. TDEM is working with the state of Louisiana on the repopulation of their residents who sought shelter in Texas.

As of Tuesday, October 6, there are 2,161 evacuees (-492) in 6 non-congregate shelters throughout the State in 886 (-148) hotel rooms. Texas continues to support Louisiana in sheltering and recovery transition needs through partnership with FEMA and the American Red Cross. Hotel Engine, at the request of GOHSEP, DCFSS, and ARC, issued a letter to evacuees with documented damage in the categories of no-damage, affected, or minor on Monday October 5 advising them to return to their residences, that their eligibility for emergency sheltering will be concluding as of Wednesday October 7. Evacuees requesting additional shelter days due to extenuating circumstances are encouraged to reach out to their ARC case worker. Over the past 7 days FEMA has conducted 1,020 Individual Assistance intake

interviews. They have completed outreach in 7 facilities and remain with staff in 4, for further intake and case management.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): TCEQ staff are conducting weekly inspections on twelve authorized Temporary Debris Management Sites (TDMS) in Newton, Orange, Sabine, and Jasper Counties.

Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOADs):

American Red Cross (ARC): As of October 4; 5,097 calls were made, 2,983 contacts were made, 770 plans were identified, 374 households transitioned out. The ARC established a disaster relief operation (DR 538-21) in support of Hurricane Laura across Texas and are in close coordination with Louisiana operations to support requests. The ARC is operating and managing 6 non-congregate sheltering sites in Texas; have distributed a total of 22,313 clean-up supplies; and had a total of 4,620 contacts for Disaster Health, Mental Health, Disability Care, and Spiritual Care.

Texas Baptist Men (TBM): TBM continues the work in the Orange Area with chainsaw and heavy equipment units. All units and volunteers are being housed at North Orange Baptist Church. A feeding team is on site providing meals for the teams. As of October 5, TBM completed 22,986 total volunteer hours; prepared 6,782 total meals; provided 1,986 total showers; completed 1,218 loads of laundry; completed 335 assessments; completed 336 chainsaw jobs; and completed 1,227 heavy equipment hours.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

BUSES

2

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) remains 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/situation-reports/>*

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