



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	24-0014 26APR Severe Weather
Date	May 2, 2024
Time	10:00 AM
Operational Period	8:00 AM May 1 to 8:00 AM May 2, 2024
Report Number	1

Regions Affected

TDEM Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, & 8
DDs Active	3, 4, 7, & 14

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

On May 1, Governor Greg Abbott directed TDEM to [increase the readiness level of the Texas State Emergency Operations Center to Level II \(Escalated Response\)](#) as the state prepares ahead of severe weather and flooding threats over the next several days.

On May 01, Governor Greg Abbott announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved [his request for a disaster declaration](#) in Texas communities affected by severe weather and flooding early last month. Texas counties included in the declaration are Angelina, Hardin, Jasper, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine, and Tyler counties.

On April 30, Governor Greg issued a [disaster declaration](#) for 29 Texas counties impacted by severe storms and flooding that began last week and continues to affect homes, businesses, and the agricultural industry throughout the state.

On April 27, National Weather Service (NWS) survey teams assessed 10 tornadoes occurring on April 26 in Hill and McLennan Counties, ranging from EF0 to EF2. Another four EF0 tornadoes on April 28 in Freestone, Limestone, and Milam Counties were assessed on April 29. One EF1 tornado in Travis County was assessed on April 29.

At the Governor's direction, state agencies continue to support requests for state assistance. The following resources remain engaged and available to support local severe weather and flooding response operations:

- **Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (Texas A&M Task Force 1 and Texas Task Force 2):** Urban Search & Rescue Teams; Swiftwater Boat Squads.
- **Texas National Guard:** UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters with hoist capability; Ground Transportation Platoons with High Profile Vehicles.
- **Texas Division of Emergency Management:** Emergency response personnel to support requests for state assistance from local officials.

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 04:00 AM, May 02.

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

Moderate river flooding is being reported at the Trinity River near Goodrich, Trinidad, Riverside, and Moss Bluff.

Moderate river flooding is being reported at the San Jacinto River near New Caney.

Moderate river flooding is being reported at the Sabine River near Gladewater.

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

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Sabine River near Deweyville and Hawkins.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Trinity River near Moss Bluff.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Neches River near Alto, Diboll, Neches, Town Bluff, Evadale, and Rockland.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Sulphur River near Cooper.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Angelina River near Lufkin.

Minor river flooding is being reported at the Navasota River near Easterly, Groesbeck, and Normangee.

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

DD 7 – Abilene (Includes Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, and Taylor Counties)

Knox County: On April 26, damage assessments from Knox City reported 20 damaged structures.

Region 2 (Includes DDs 3, 4, and 22)

DD 3 – Wichita Falls (Includes Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Young Counties)

Wichita County: On April 28, it was reported that water was entering homes, there was no major damage or evacuations.

Baylor County: On April 28, there were reports of wind damage to power lines, outbuildings, and farm equipment to the west of Seymour.

Region 3 (Includes DDs 5, 6, 14, and 15)

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

On April 30, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have issued a High Flow Warning for the Town Bluff Dam and B.A. Steinhagen Lake. Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) field staff are in contact with both the dam operator and with USACE. Local officials are considering issuing a voluntary evacuation.

Polk County: On April 29, A Mandatory Evacuation was issued for the low-lying areas near Lake Livingston Dam.

Region 4 (Includes DDs 16)

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

Liberty County: On April 30, there have been approximately 30 water rescues from homes and vehicles. The East Fork RV Resort in the city of Cleveland was evacuated and no shelters were needed.

Walker County: On May 2, the Lake Conroe Dam began discharging at a rate of 9,105 cfs.

Region 8 (Includes DDs 11, 12, 13, and 23)

DD 11 – Waco (Includes Bosque, Falls, Freestone, Hill, Limestone, and McLennan Counties)

On May 2, the Lake Limestone gates released at a rate of 43,824 cfs.

Limestone County: On May 1, there were reports of flooded roadways resulting in stranded motorists. A train derailment occurred due to flooding but there was no HazMat incident, or injuries involved.

Freestone County: On May 1, there were reports of stranded motorists in Teague on Interstate Highway (IH) 45 and rural areas. The Texas Task Force (TTF) 1 boat squad has repositioned to assist for future rescues.

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. There are currently three shelters that the American Red Cross support with a total population of 20, as of May 1.

Incident Support Task Force (I.S.T.F): On May 1, ISTF assigned three personnel to the SOC. ISTF has activated personnel to the Trinity County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to assist with operations.

Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension: On May 1, The AgriLife Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Unit has rostered four DAR Strike Team and a DAR Strike Team has been assigned to provide support to the TAMU Veterinarian (VET). AgriLife DAR Agents are in contact with officials in affected counties to monitor needs and provide support. A DAR agent in Disaster District (DD) 14 is working with the Voluntary Agency Liason (VAL) in San Jacinto County to locate

animal supplies for a local animal shelter. The San Jacinto County Extension Agent assisted with the relocation of 10 trailer loads of cattle in floodwaters.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1): On May 1, TX-TF1 assigned Swiftwater Boat Squads to be available to support flooding operations. TEEX assigned Liaison Officer's (LNO) to the SOC, DDEOC 16, and Strike teams including a pumping operations team, Drone sUAS team, utilities team and Water/Wastewater (W/WW) teams are on standby for local and state requests.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) / Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT): TEEX and TX-PWRT have assigned personnel to support and coordinate operations from the SOC. Two TEEX/TX-PWRT are staffing Public Works and Engineering personnel at the DDEOC 16 in Houston.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): TAMFS is staging in regions 5, 6 and 7, and Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) one with a Rapid Extrication Module (REM) in Ft. Stockton. An aircraft has been repositioned in Abilene. TAMFS personnel are in region 4 DDEOC 16 and on standby to assist operations.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): On April 29, TAHC contacted several counties in TDEM Regions 3, 4, and 8 for situational updates and to address potential animal needs. On May 01, TAHC assigned a representative to the SOC. TAHC field staff are available to assist local producers and jurisdictions to address any animal issues or needs.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): 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 Tactical Marine Unit has rescue specialists assigned to hoist capable helicopters in Austin and Dallas, and flood water boats throughout the state.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): On May 1, DSHS assigned LNO's to the SOC. Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Severe Weather Packages (SWX PKGs) 1,2,4,6 and 7 are on standby.

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC): On May 1, HHSC began staffing the SOC in support of severe weather and flooding response operations on May 1, 2024.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD has activated two Ground Transportation Platoons, one UH-60 with Crew, and assigned a SOC Support Team.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD has prepared department resources consisting of Texas Game Wardens and State Parks Police Officers equipped with swift water boats and shallow water boats to support rescue operations. Additional personnel and equipment are on standby to respond to the areas affected. TPWD SAR Team and Game Warden UAV pilot have scouted areas with potential flood concerns.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT has assigned a LNO to support the SOC and have crews are performing damage assessments on roads and bridges that have been impacted.

American Red Cross (ARC): On May 2, ARC began assisting with three shelters, conducting damage assessments, and supplied 192 meals in Tyler, Polk, San Jacinto, Harris, Montgomery, and Liberty Counties.

The Salvation Army (TSA): On May 1, TSA assigned a LNO to the SOC and has their mobile feeding unit and volunteers ready to assist impacted areas.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TEEX TX-TF1	Swiftwater Boat Squad	24	8	Activated	Hopkins, Kaufman, McLennan, and Navarro Counties
TEEX/TX-PWRT	SOC LNO	2	2	Assigned	SOC Austin
TEEX/TX-PWRT	ESF 3 LNO	2	2	Assigned	DDEOC - Houston
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Activated	Austin SOC
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Activated	TxDOT HQ
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon A	10	5	Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon B	10	5	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	UH-60 Blackhawk	6	1	Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	SOC Support	4	0	Assigned	Austin
HHSC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	DAR Strike Team	26	6	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	Extension Admin	2	0	Activated	College Station

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TAHC	SOC Representative	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TAHC	TAHC Emergency Management	1	0	Available, On Call	Virtual
TAHC	TAHC Emergency Management	1	1	Activated	Walker Co.
TAHC	TAHC Livestock Inspectors	1	1	Activated	San Jacinto Co.
DSHS	SOC LNO	1	0	Activated	Austin
DSHS	SOC	1	0	Activated	Austin
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	Game Wardens	42	42	Available	Polk, Angelina, Tyler, Liberty, Milam, Chambers, Harris, Galveston, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Brazoria, Walker, Jasper
TPWD	SAR Team	16	16	Available	Livingston, Milam, Lampasas, Bexar, Wichita
TPWD	Shallow/Swift Water Boats	0	3	Available	Shallow/Swift Water Boats
TPWD	Airboat	0	12	Available	Polk, Angelina, Tyler, Liberty, Milam, Chambers, Harris, Galveston, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Brazoria, Walker, Jasper
TPWD	State Park Officers	1	1	Available	Lake Livingston State Park
TPWD	UAS Operator	1	1	Available	Livingston, TX

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TPWD	Swiftwater Boat Team	8	4	Activated	Jack, Palo Pinto, Smith, and Trinity Counties
TDEM	Mass Care ESF6	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	DRTF HQ staff	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF Members	1	0	Assigned	Trinity County EOC
TDEM	ISTF Members	2	0	En Route	Trinity County EOC
TAMFS	TF	11		Activated	Uvalde
TAMFS	ST, SEATs, Air Attack	17	4	Activated	Alpine
TAMFS	TF, EMTF11, REM, SEATs, Air Attack	27	3	Activated	Ft. Stockton
TAMFS	TF, Air Attack	14	1	Activated	San Angelo
TAMFS	LATs, ASM		3	Activated	Abilene
TAMFS	SEATs, Air Attack		4	Activated	Dumas
TAMFS	Dozer Crew	4	1	Activated	Edinburg
DPS	SOC	2	2	Assigned	Austin
DPS	Helicopters w/Hoist	12	4	Activated	Dallas, Austin, El Paso, and Edinburg
HHSC	SOC Liaison	1	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-3>

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