



## Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

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### New Information is in Blue Text

<b>Event Name</b>	<b>24-0019 08SEP Tropical Weather</b>
<b>Date</b>	September 18, 2024
<b>Time</b>	10:00 AM
<b>Operational Period</b>	8:00 AM September 17 to 8:00 AM September 18, 2024
<b>Report Number</b>	9 (Final)

### Regions Affected

<b>TDEM Regions Affected</b>	3, 4, 5
<b>DDs Active</b>	None

**STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:** On September 10, Governor Abbott provided updates on Texas' preparation efforts ahead of Tropical Storm Francine following two briefings with state and local officials at the State Operations Center (SOC) in Austin and at the Beaumont Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Beaumont.

On September 8, Governor Abbott directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to activate additional state emergency response resources ahead of potential impacts from tropical activity in the Gulf of Mexico.

On September 5, Texas emergency management officials deployed additional state emergency response resources amid rainfall, flash flooding, and tropical weather threats. These assets are activated in addition to the state emergency response resources already deployed and responding to continuing heavy rainfall and flash floods across Texas.

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

Disaster District Emergency Operations Center (DDEOC) 15 returned to Level IV (Normal Conditions) on September 11.

### **Region 4 (Includes DD 16)**

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

DDEOC 16 returned to Level IV on September 11.

Galveston County: A voluntary evacuation order was issued for the Bolivar Peninsula from 8 AM September 10 to 8 PM September 11.

### **Region 5 (Includes DDs 19-21)**

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

DDEOC 20 returned to Level IV on September 11.

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

DDEOC 21 returned to Level IV on September 11.

Cameron County: Local jurisdictions have reported some nuisance flooding, sporadic power outages, and some trees in roadways. No evacuations or rescues have been reported.

### **Region 6 (Includes DDs 17, 18A, 18B, and 24)**

DD 17 – Victoria (Includes Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, Jackson, and Victoria Counties)

DDEOC 17 returned to Level IV on September 11.

## **RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS**

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

**Communications Coordination Group (CCG):** CCG partners continue to prepare resources to respond if necessary. The public, private and volunteer sectors have adjusted their resources for this weather event. The Commission on State

Emergency Communications (CSEC) and Texas Telecommunications Emergency Response Taskforce (TX TERT), reached out to the Public Safety Access Points (PSAP) in the potentially impacted areas to determine possible needs. Cellular providers have secured backup resources and are monitoring their networks. The FirstNet Authority has coordinated response with private sector and federal partners. Land Mobile Radio (LMR) communications platforms are on standby. The Texas HF 7290 Traffic Net, which supports multiple Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 6 states, was on standby to assist Texas Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) and The Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) operations should conditions warrant a response. Discussions and planning are ongoing with FEMA Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding possible support.

**Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife):** All personnel were demobilized on September 12. AgriLife RELLIS Liaison Officers (LNO) was released. The AgriLife Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Unit monitored Tropical Storm Francine and DAR Agents sent out weather information to officials in the affected counties. The AgriLife DAR Public Information Officer (PIO) disseminated public messaging from TDEM regarding tropical storm preparedness and response. AgriLife worked with the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) for any agricultural or animal issues.

Director Dr. Rick Avery and Associate Director Dr. Angela Burkham briefed Governor Abbott at the SOC on all the efforts made by AgriLife prior to the press conference on September 10.

**Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX):** Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) / Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT) supported and coordinated operations from the SOC and various DDEOCs serving as ESF-3.

**Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service Texas Task Force 1 (TEEX/TX-TF1):** On September 10, TX-TF1 linked-up with TIFMAS, EMTF, and TMD to consolidate the response footprint for multiple areas. Hurricane Francine turned toward the East, leading to a reduction in threats to the Texas Gulf Coast. All resources maintained their positions in case the hurricane made an unexpected turn, or the State of Louisiana requested assistance from Texas. TX-TF1 resources engaged with local resources to learn where the traditional problem areas are located and how local authorities plan to respond.

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS):** TAMFS demobilized two Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) All-Hazard Strike Teams (ST) positioned in Beaumont and Tyler on September 12. Two TIFMAS STs were released on September 11. The Five All-Hazard Incident Management Team (AHIMT) members assigned to support DDEOC 16 Houston were cancelled enroute. TAMFS LNOs

assigned to the SOC were released. The TAMFS LNO and TIFMAS LNO assigned to RELLIS have been released.

### **Other State Agencies**

**Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):** TAHC contacted local producers to ensure appropriate measures for basic storm preparedness and communication was made with livestock deputies and CEAs. The TAHC PIO engaged with TDEM sharing social media updates.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** TCEQ teams were available to respond to any air/water/waste related issues including drinking water/wastewater and emergency response.

**Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):** The State Medical Operations Center (SMOC) has returned to normal operations.

**Texas Education Agency (TEA):** TEA and TDEM were in communication with the appropriate Education Service Centers (ESCs) and University Systems and will continue to maintain contact throughout the event.

**Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC):** HHSC had one LNO supporting the SOC. There were no reports of long-term care (LTC) facilities, acute healthcare facilities, or state operated facilities being impacted by the weather. Vendors for emergency ice and water were on standby.

**Texas Military Department (TMD):** TMD had activated 87 personnel and 15 vehicles for this event.

**Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD):** TPWD prepared department resources consisting of Texas Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers, equipped with swift water boats and shallow water boats to support rescue operations. TPWD personnel were continually advised of the current weather conditions and are maintaining a state of readiness. TPWD worked closely with the SOC to ensure TPWD Search and Rescue (SAR) resources and first responders were available. All resources have demobilized and returned to normal operations.

### **Federal Agencies**

**United States Coast Guard (USCG) Port of Corpus Christi:** Due to the increased intensity of Tropical Storm Francine, the USCG Captain of the Port of Corpus Christi (COTP) has set Port Condition Yankee for the Ports of Brownsville, Mansfield, Harlingen, and Port Isabel, effective 11 AM on September 9. Port Condition X-ray will remain in effect for all other ports in the COTP zone area of responsibility from the Colorado Locks to Corpus Christi (including the ports of Port Lavaca-Point Comfort, Palacios, Victoria, and West Calhoun).

**United States Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Houston-Galveston:** The COTP has set Port Condition Yankee for the ports of Houston, Galveston, Freeport, and Texas City on September 9.

**Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)**

**American Red Cross (ARC):** On September 13, completed detailed damage assessment (DDA) by noon in all affected areas. ARC will develop and implement a demobilization plan for staffing and materiel resources and transitioning back to the region. The standby shelters demobilized September 12.

**STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED**

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
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**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions). 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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