

Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text

| Event Name | 25-0002 Winter Weather 06JAN |
|--------------------|--|
| Date | January 9, 2025 |
| Time | 10:00 AM |
| Operational Period | 7:00 AM January 8 to 8:00 AM January 9, 2025 |
| Report Number | 1 |

| Regions Affected | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| TDEM Regions Affected | 1, 2, 3, and 7 |
| DDs Active | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 22 |

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

According to the National Weather Service, a large area of the state is expected to face ongoing freezing and below-freezing temperatures throughout the rest of the week. Accumulating snow, sleet, ice and freezing rain is possible for northern, western, and central regions of the state.

On January 8, Governor Greg Abbott provided an update on Texas' ongoing response to severe winter weather impacting large portions of the state following a briefing with state officials at the State Operations Center in Austin.

On January 7, Governor Abbott directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to increase the readiness level of the Texas State Operations Center (SOC) to Level II (Escalated Response) ahead of winter weather expected to impact the state, with the greatest impacts beginning on January 7 through the weekend.

On January 6, the Governor <u>directed</u> TDEM to activate state emergency response resources in anticipation of severe winter weather.

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 1 (Includes DDs 1, 2, and 7)

DD 1 – Amarillo (Includes Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, and Wheeler Counties): Disaster District Emergency Operations Center (DDEOC) 1 activated to Level III Increased Readiness Conditions as of January 7.

DD 2 – Lubbock (Includes Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry, and Yoakum Counties): DDEOC 2 activated to Level III Increased Readiness Conditions as of January 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): DDEOC 7 activated to Level III Increased Readiness Conditions as of January 6.

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) DDEOC 3 activated to Level III Increased Readiness Conditions as of January 8.

DD 4 – Dallas/Ft. Worth (Includes Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise Counties) DDEOC 4 activated to Level II Escalated Response Conditions as of January 8.

Denton County EOC is activated to Level III.

DD 22 – Sherman (Includes Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson Counties): DDEOC 22 activated to Level II Escalated Response Conditions as of as of 0700 on January 9.

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 activated to Level II Increased Readiness as of 0700 on January 9.

DD 6 – Tyler (Includes Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood Counties) DDEOC 6 activated to Level III Increased Readiness Conditions as of January 9.

Region 7 (Includes DDs 8, 9, and 10)

DD 8 – El Paso (Includes Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, and Presidio Counties): DDEOC 8 activated to Level III Increased Readiness Conditions as of 1200 January 7.

DD 9 – Midland/Ft. Stockton (Includes Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Loving, Martin, Midland, Pecos, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Ward, and Winkler Counties): DDEOC 9 activated to Level III Increased Readiness Conditions as of 0800 January 8.

DD 10 – San Angelo (Includes Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, and Tom Green Counties): DDEOC 10 activated to Level III Increased Readiness Conditions as of 0800 January 8.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

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

Communications Coordination Group (CCG)

TDEM ESF 2 / Communications Coordination Group (CCG) partners are monitoring the situation and preparing resources in the event of communications outages. Our partners across the public, private and volunteer sectors are assessing and adjusting their resources in accordance with the situation.

Our Cellular partners: Continue to top off fixed generators and charge backup batteries. Additional support resources have been staged to provide additional backup resources. Crews are staged to respond to repair damaged transmissions lines if necessary. Networks are being adjusted to support increased capacity as needed.

Amateur Radio Operations: Coordination is continuing to identify and activate local VHF / UHF repeater networks along the forecasted areas as necessary. Texas Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) operators are being briefed on the situation and are standing by to support their DDEOCs if required.

The Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC): Is reaching out to their PSAP / 9-1-1 partners. There are no current issues, but they are monitoring for any impacts to power supporting PSAP facilities.

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), Office of the SWIC: Is monitoring the situation to provide frequency coordination if necessary.

Incident Support Task Force (ISTF)

ISTF is tracking nineteen public shelters and 347 warming centers. To date, 1,500 Hot Meals have been served.

Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC)

Utilities across the state have been preparing for several days in anticipation of the winter weather threat. ERCOT expects to have sufficient power to meet demand throughout the event and the PUC and ERCOT will continue to monitor the weather and provide updates as we have them.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC)

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) began staffing the SOC on January 8, 2025. Livestock inspectors are positioned across the state connecting with local animal response partners and maintaining situational awareness to address animal issues, as needed. TAHC continues to monitor weather forecasts, communicate with ESF11 support agencies, and is maintaining a readiness posture to respond to any requests for assistance. Currently, there have been no reports of animal issues or unmet needs.

SOC Representative is participating in weather calls, monitoring WebEOC, submitting situational reports, and attending all necessary meetings. TAHC is monitoring weather forecasts and will communicate to regional staff regarding office closures due to inclement weather, as appropriate. Any delays or closures will be announced on the TAHC website. TAHC Communications is sharing TDEM/TXDOT social media posts and winter weather awareness/preparatory material with animal ag stakeholders. Guidance on caring for animals in winter weather will also be posted throughout the event.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has placed agency emergency management staff and emergency response hazmat contractors on heightened readiness for possible deployment to assist with any air/water/waste related issues including drinking water/wastewater issues and/or emergency response activities.

TCEQ has sent notifications to Public Drinking Water Systems and Wastewater Treatment Facilities to provide reminders to operators on regulatory guidance, procedures, and preparedness steps to take in advance of approaching winter weather.

Texas Department of Licensing and Registration (TDLR)

The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) has raised the readiness level of the State Operations Center (SOC) to Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) in response to the continued winter weather affecting most of Texas. TDLR stands ready to assist as requested.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Texas Department of Public Safety is actively supporting the winter weather patrolling roadways, monitoring traffic, and assessing road conditions. TXDPS stands by ready to respond to requests for assistance due to severe weather.

Texas Highway Patrol (THP) personnel assigned to the North Texas Tollway Authority are providing their normal 24-hour coverage monitoring traffic, responding to crashes, and assisting stranded motorists. In the THP El Paso District, personnel were assigned to work alongside TxDOT at the Vista location to monitor highway cameras along the interstate. THP Abilene and Wichita Falls Districts are closely monitoring traffic and road conditions to ensure public safety. The THP Chief's office is providing State Operations Center support.

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

Texas Health and Human Services Commission has one staff member supporting the State Operations Center. Staff is monitoring conditions and impacts to both regulated and operated facilities. Vendors for ice and water are on standby.

Texas Military Department (TMD)

TMD has 7 Winter Weather MRP's and 1 BNMC MRP to assist stranded motorists and conduct welfare checks on selected motorways. The WW MRPs will be staged in Pecos, Mineral Wells, Texarkana, Denison, Kerrville, Abilene, and Brownwood. The BNMC will be in Fort Worth. Military District Coordinators has been activated for Disaster District 05 and 22. The SOC Support Team supports the State Operations Center Winter Weather Operations in Austin. TMD has activated up to 172 personnel and 61 vehicles in support of 25-0002 Winter Weather 06JAN.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has prepared department resources consisting of Texas Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers ready to support as needed in response to the severe winter weather threats throughout the State. TPWD continues to work closely with TDEM and other state/federal partners through the State Operations Center to ensure TPWD resources and first responders are available should they be needed. TPWD personnel are continuously being advised of the current weather conditions and maintaining a state of readiness.

 TPWD has Texas Game Wardens and State Park Police Officers prepared to respond to areas affected by severe weather conditions and support operations as needed.

- TPWD has the following Statewide resources available to support:
- Assigned (1) Liaison to the SOC.
- 4x4 Vehicles
- Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Drones
- Helicopter 1 (Austin)

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)

Over the weekend, 700 employees conducted pretreating operations with over 500,000 gallons of brine and approximately 800 cubic yards of granular material. Approximately 1,800 employees continued pretreatment on January 6. TxDOT districts and toll partners will continue to pretreat roads, bridges, and overpasses, with emphasis on the state's Tier I highways.

Additional TxDOT crews are deploying to support northern districts. TxDOT is coordinating with Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) and Texas Military Department (TMD) to provide increased response along major interstate corridors. No roads are currently impacted by weather. Check <u>DriveTexas.org</u> for the most current road conditions & safety advisories.

- At 2:30am, only 1 section of IH 10 in Hudspeth Co. has light snow on it. Traffic is moving.
- At 1:30pm on Wednesday January 8, only 3 on-system roads were impacted by ice/snow (all Region 1) including US-54. In Region 2, All Dallas Managed Lanes closed at noon today and will remain closed until storm threats clear the area.
- TxDOT EOC & local EOCs across the state are stood up and 24-hour shift work has begun.
- TxDOT emergency management staff are supporting 24-hour SOC operations.
- Over 2,100 TxDOT employees were out preparing for the winter storm yesterday, Tuesday January 8, and over 1-million gallons of brine was distributed on state roadways.
- TxDOT crews are out again today pretreating/retreating roads, bridges, and overpasses.
- TxDOT urges motorists to allow ample room for equipment and operators for the safety of everyone on the roads.
- At 2:30am, only 1 section of IH 10 in Hudspeth Co. has light snow on it. Traffic is moving.
- TxDOT southern districts deployed and arrived last night to support TxDOT northern districts.
- TXDOT has coordinated with Texas A&M Forest Service and Texas Military Department to provide additional support along major highway corridors.

Texas Department of State Health Services: Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF)

Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)

American Red Cross (ARC)

ARC is out supporting warming centers and standing by for sheltering if needed with the weather. Feeding partners on standby for request to support outside normal operations.

- Harris County requested 2 warming centers to be on standby. ARC identified Kingwood Baptist Church and St Timothy Lutheran Church. 2 shelter teams on standby.
- Fort Bend County: Supported a warming center at Attack Poverty Friends of North Rosenberg overnight. Provided 60 blankets and 30 cots. Staffed by Red Cross volunteers.
- Newton County provided 20 blankets
- Jasper County provided 20 blankets
- Rockport, Aransas Pass: ARC will be supporting a warming center on Thursday night with cots, blankets, and volunteers.
- The City of Amarillo has opened a warming center at the Wolforth recreation center in Amarillo, TX. ARC provided 100 blankets.
- City of Carrollton Shelter location identified as Rosemead Recreation Center. Shelter will only be opened if there are major long-term power outages in Carrollton.
- City of Alvarado, Johnson County Shelter location First Baptist Church. Shelter will be ARC managed and will open Wednesday January 8, 2025. This shelter will be utilized for stranded motorists.

Texans on Mission (TXM)

TXM set up the mass feeding team in Dallas to assist with hot meals in the DFW area. To date, TXM has volunteered 435 hours and prepared 1,500 meals.

• Volunteer Hours: 435

Meals: 1,500

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

| Agency | Resource Kind and Type | Personnel | Equip | Status | Location |
|--------|---------------------------|-----------|-------|----------|----------|
| DSHS | SCO | 1 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| DSHS | LNO | 2 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| ISTF | Mass Care ESF 6 | 1 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| ISTF | ISTF HQ Staff | 2 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| ISTF | VOAD | 1 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| TAHC | SOC Representative | 1 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| TAHC | TAHC Emergency Management | 2 | 0 | Assigned | Virtual |
| TPWD | SOC Liaison | 1 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| TxDOT | EMC | 1 | 1 | Assigned | SOC |

| TxDOT | SOC Liaison | 1 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
|-------|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|
| TXDPS | SOC Support | 2 | 2 (Patrol Vehicles) | Assigned | SOC |
| PUC | SOC Support | 4 | | | SOC |
| HHSC | SOC Support | 1 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| TCEQ | SOC Support | 2 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| TPWD | Game Wardens/State Park Police | 500 | 500 (4X4 Vehicles) | Available | Statewide |
| TPWD | UAS | 30 | 30 | Available | Statewide |
| TPWD | Helicopter | 2 | 2 | Available | Austin |
| TDLR | SOC Liaison | 1 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| TMD | BNMC | 36 | 5 | Assigned | Fort Worth |
| TMD | WW 01 | 18 | 8 | Assigned | Pecos |
| TMD | WW 02 | 18 | 8 | Assigned | Mineral Wells |
| TMD | WW 03 | 18 | 8 | Assigned | Texarkana |
| TMD | WW 04 | 18 | 8 | Assigned | Denison |
| TMD | WW 05 | 18 | 8 | Assigned | Kerrville |
| TMD | WW06 | 18 | 8 | Assigned | Abilene |
| TMD | WW 07 | 18 | 8 | Assigned | Brownwood |
| TMD | SOC Support Team | 8 | 0 | Assigned | SOC |
| TMD | MDC | 1 | 0 | Assigned | Sherman |
| TMD | MDC | 1 | 0 | Activated | Mt Pleasant |

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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