



Texas Department of Public Safety



Division of Emergency Management

September 2015
FEMA NAC Meeting

September 18, 2015



TDEM Initiatives

- Coordinate the **state emergency management program**.
- Increase **public awareness** about threats and hazards.
- Provide **specialized training** for emergency responders and local officials.
- Administer **disaster recovery** and **hazard mitigation** programs.



TDEM at a Glance

- ~\$515M Annual **Budget**
 - Federal Disaster
 - Federal Preparedness
 - State Funds
 - Contracts
- Almost **500** full-time/contract **employees**
- Chief reports to the governor for all emergency and disaster related matters



Texas Population Growth

- Large and growing population compounds disaster numbers.
- **2010** Texas population:
25,145,561
- **2014** Texas population *estimate*:
26,956,958
- *Estimated* population **increase** of 1,811,397 residents.



Texas by the Numbers

- 254 *Counties* | 1,210 *Cities* | 1,025 *ISDs*
- Six of the most populous cities in the U.S.
 - #4 Houston
 - #7 San Antonio
 - #9 Dallas
 - #11 Austin
 - #17 Fort Worth
 - #19 El Paso





Disasters in Texas

- 2010 – Present:
 - **Federally** Declared Disasters – 6
 - **Emergency** Declarations – 2
 - Fire Management Assistance Declaration (**FMAG**) – 57
 - **State** (only) Declared Disasters – 8



Major Disaster Declarations Since 1953

• 10.	Iowa	56
	West Virginia	56
• 9.	Missouri	57
• 8.	Alabama	58
• 7.	Arkansas	59
• 6.	Kentucky	61
	Louisiana	61
• 5.	Florida	67
• 4.	New York	70
• 3.	Oklahoma	76
• 2.	California	80



Major Disaster Declarations Since 1953

- 1. TEXAS 89
 - EMER 13
 - FMAG 235
 - **TOTAL 337**
- The Lone Star State has recorded 89 **Major Disasters** in 62 years.
- 1 EVERY 8 ½ MONTHS



Thresholds	
Texas	\$35,455,241
Arkansas	\$ 4,111,444
Louisiana	\$ 6,932,055
Oklahoma	\$ 5,289,405
New Mexico	\$ 2,903,442



2015 Severe Weather and Flooding Event (DR-4223)

- May to June 2015 near continuous heavy rains and severe weather
- Widespread flooding across much of the state
- Tornadoes and straight-line winds cause moderate to significant damage across portions of north and west Texas



DR-4223: By the numbers

- 35 trillion gallons of water fell across Texas in the month of May
- 21 confirmed fatalities; 15 unconfirmed fatalities (confirmation process still ongoing)
- State declared disaster in 122 counties
- Federally declared disaster in 113 counties
- Over \$104 million in individual assistance funds approved to date, with over \$3 million obligated for public assistance



Central Texas: Record breaking May and June

- Record breaking rainfall in the Austin/San Antonio area
 - Wettest May on record in Austin: **17.59"** total (previous record 14.10")
 - 3rd wettest spring in San Antonio: **19.08"** total (previous record 21.73")
- Major and record level river flooding
 - Colorado River crested **five times** at **major flood stage**
 - Guadalupe River crested **four times** at **major flood stage**
 - Record setting, **catastrophic flood** in Wimberley, TX



May 25, 2015
Shoal Creek Flood
Austin, TX
Photo Credit:
Telemundo



May 23, 2015
Riverwalk
San Antonio, TX
Photo Credit:
@Joeycules



Blanco River Flood

- Evening of May 23, Blanco River begins to rapidly rise
- Within hours river levels reached **44.90'** (historic levels)
- “Wall of water” hits local communities
 - **12 fatalities**, private search still ongoing for remains of two children
 - **350 homes** and numerous bridges and roads washed away
 - Thousands evacuated from surrounding area



May 24, 2015

Blanco River Flooding Aftermath



Wimberley, TX



North Texas: Record breaking May and June

- Record breaking rainfall in the Dallas/Fort Worth area
 - Normal May totals: 4.90"
 - May 2015 totals: **16.96"**
- Major and record level river flooding
 - Trinity River crested **seven times** at **major flood stage**
 - Red River crested three times at major flood stage, and sets **record levels** near Gainesville, TX



May 29, 2015
Loop 12 Flooding
Dallas, TX
Photo Credit: WFAA



May 11, 2015
Water Rescue
Denton, TX
Photo credit: WFAA



North Texas: Record breaking May and June

- 39 tornadoes struck North Texas in May
 - May 9: EF3 tornado in Cisco
 - May 10: EF3 tornado in Van
 - May 19: EF1 tornado in Mineral Wells
- Counting severe weather in April, total of 57 tornadoes in two months
 - Close to year-long record total of 73



May 10, 2015
EF 3 Tornado
Van, TX



May 19, 2015
EF 1 Tornado
Mineral Wells, TX
Photo credit: NBC
News



South/Southeast Texas: Record breaking May and June

- Record breaking rainfall in the Houston area
 - Wettest spring on record: **26.61"** total
 - May 2015 totals: **14.17"**
- Wettest May on record in Rio Grande Valley
 - Rio Grande City: **12.86"** total
 - Brownsville: **9.72"** total
- Major river flooding
 - Nueces River crested **nine times** at **major flood stage**
 - Lavaca River crested **six times** at **major flood stage**



May 26, 2015
Flooded roadway
Houston, TX
Photo credit: CNN

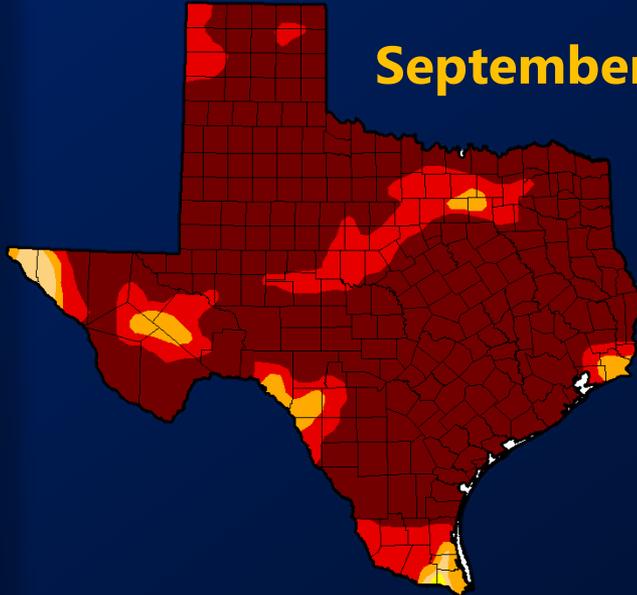


May 31, 2015
Stranded cattle
rescue
Dayton, TX
Photo credit:
KHOU

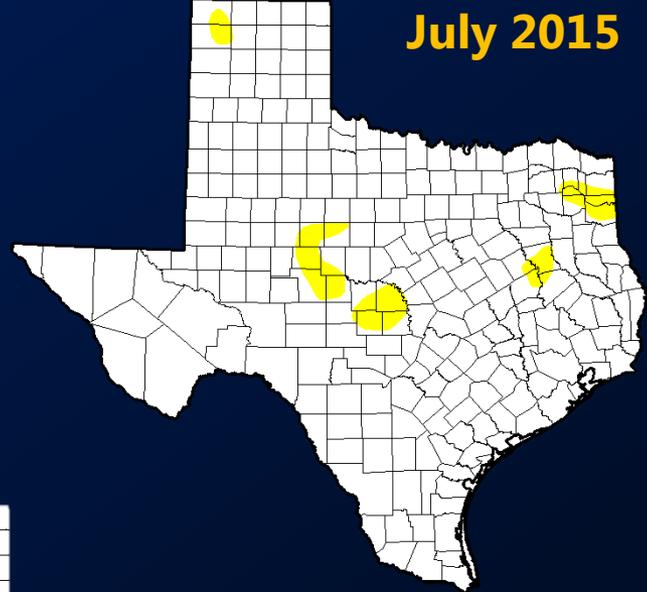


Tropical Storm Bill

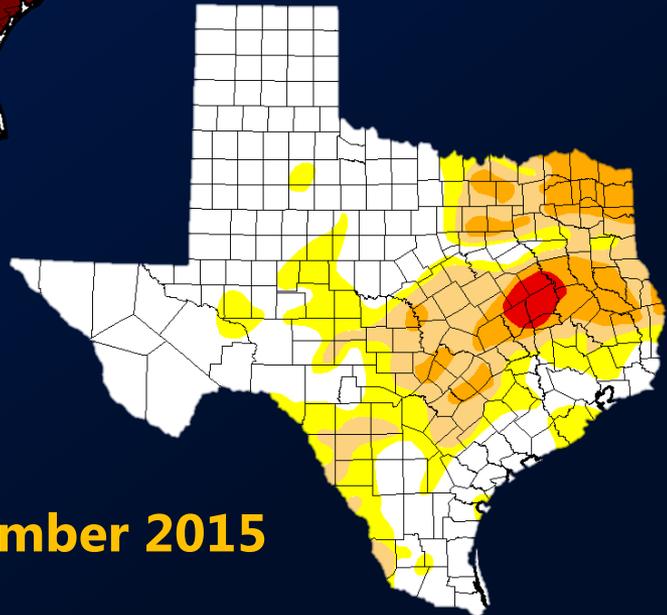
- June 16: Made landfall over Matagorda Island and cut northeast through central and north Texas
- Brought soaking rains to already saturated areas
 - Over **8"** of rainfall reported in multiple locations across state
- Exacerbated ongoing river flooding, in addition to new flash flooding



September 2011



July 2015



September 2015



State Disaster Response

- One of the longest and most complex disasters Texas has experienced
- State Operations Center (SOC) activated at Level III – Increased Readiness Conditions or higher for **43 consecutive days**.
- Over 40 state entities played a role in the response



May 31, 2015

TX-TF 2 Team

Photo Credit: TX-TF 2 Facebook Page



Incident Management in Texas

- Incidents typically **begin and end locally**, and are managed on a daily basis at the **closest possible** geographical, organizational, and jurisdictional level





Local Governments

- **Local governments** (counties, cities, or towns) respond to *emergencies* daily using their own resources
- They rely on **mutual aid** and assistance agreements with neighboring jurisdictions
- When local jurisdictions cannot meet incident response resource needs with their own resources or with help available from other local jurisdictions, they may ask for **state assistance**



State of Texas

- States have significant resources of their own
- If additional resources are required, the state may request assistance from other states through interstate mutual aid and assistance agreements such as the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)

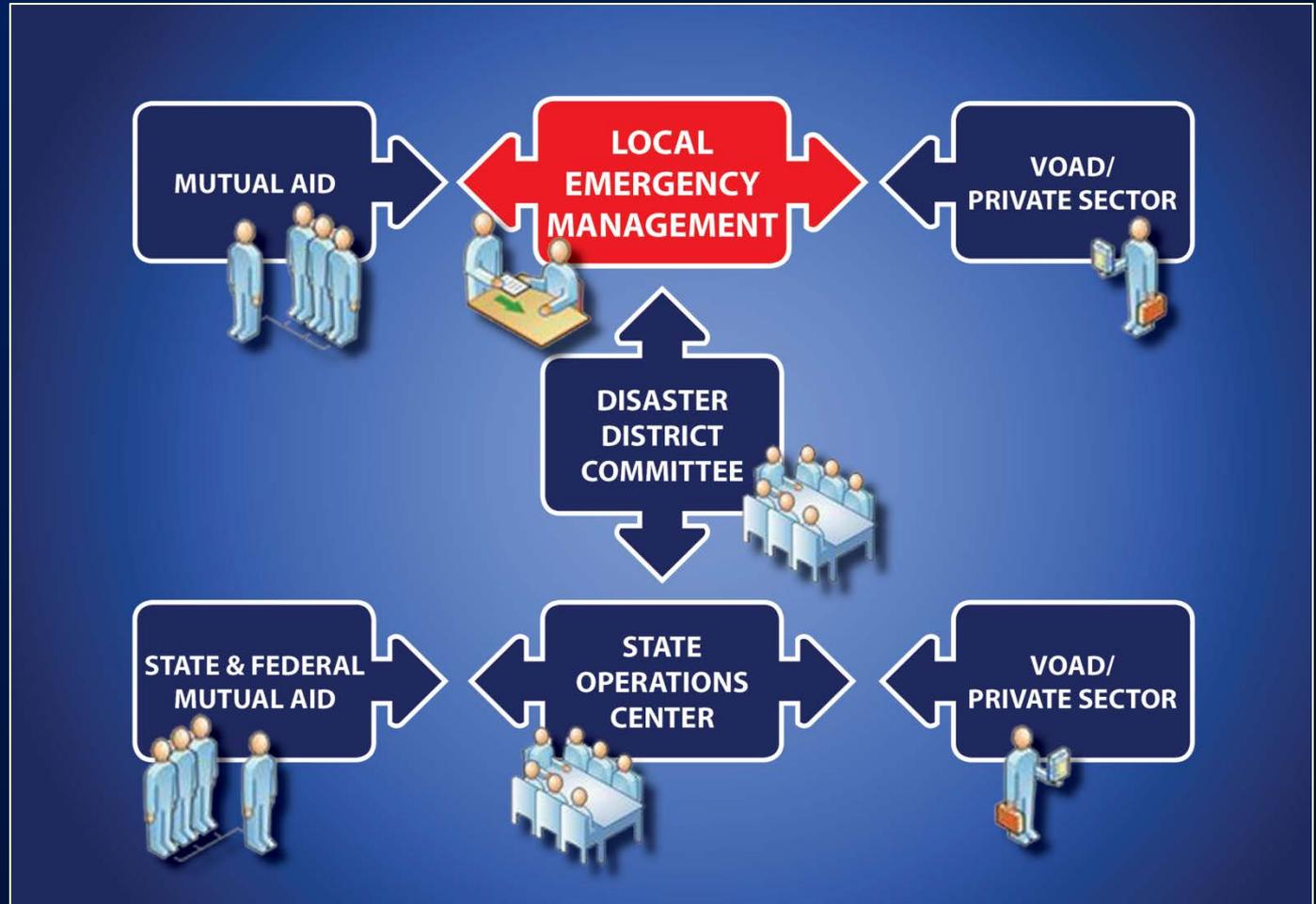


Federal Government

- If an incident is beyond local and state capabilities, the **governor** can request federal assistance
- The governor's request is made through the **FEMA** Regional Administrator and based on a finding that the disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments, federal assistance is granted



Requesting Assistance





DDC, SC & DC

- Disaster District Chair (DDC)
 - Texas Highway Patrol (THP)
 - Captain/Lieutenant
- TDEM Regional State Coordinator (SC)
- TDEM District Coordinator (DC)



DPS State Regions

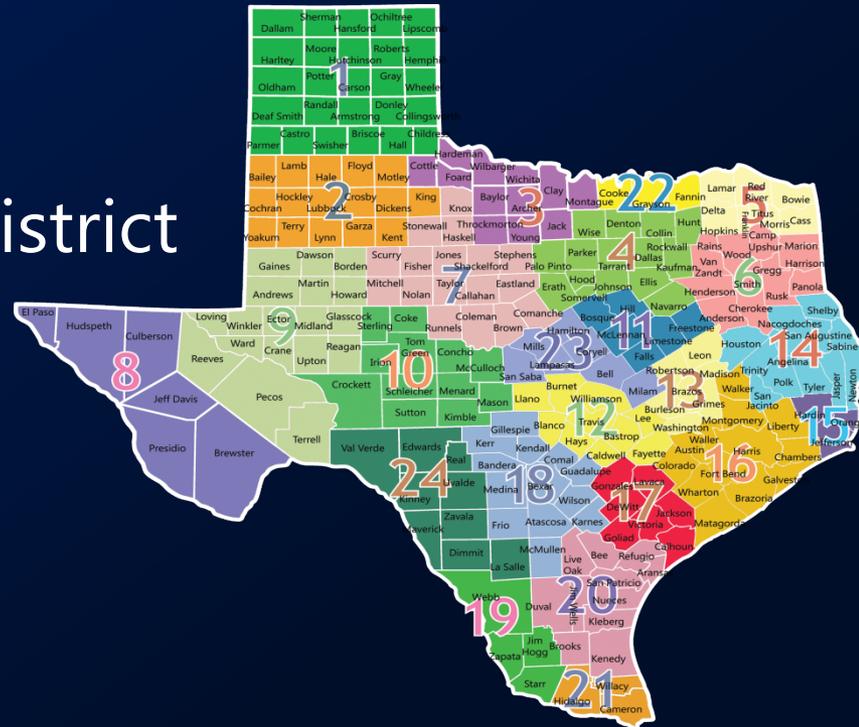
- Texas is divided into **6** DPS regions.
- Region **7** is the Capitol Complex.
- Each region has a TDEM Field Response **State Coordinator**.





State Disaster Districts

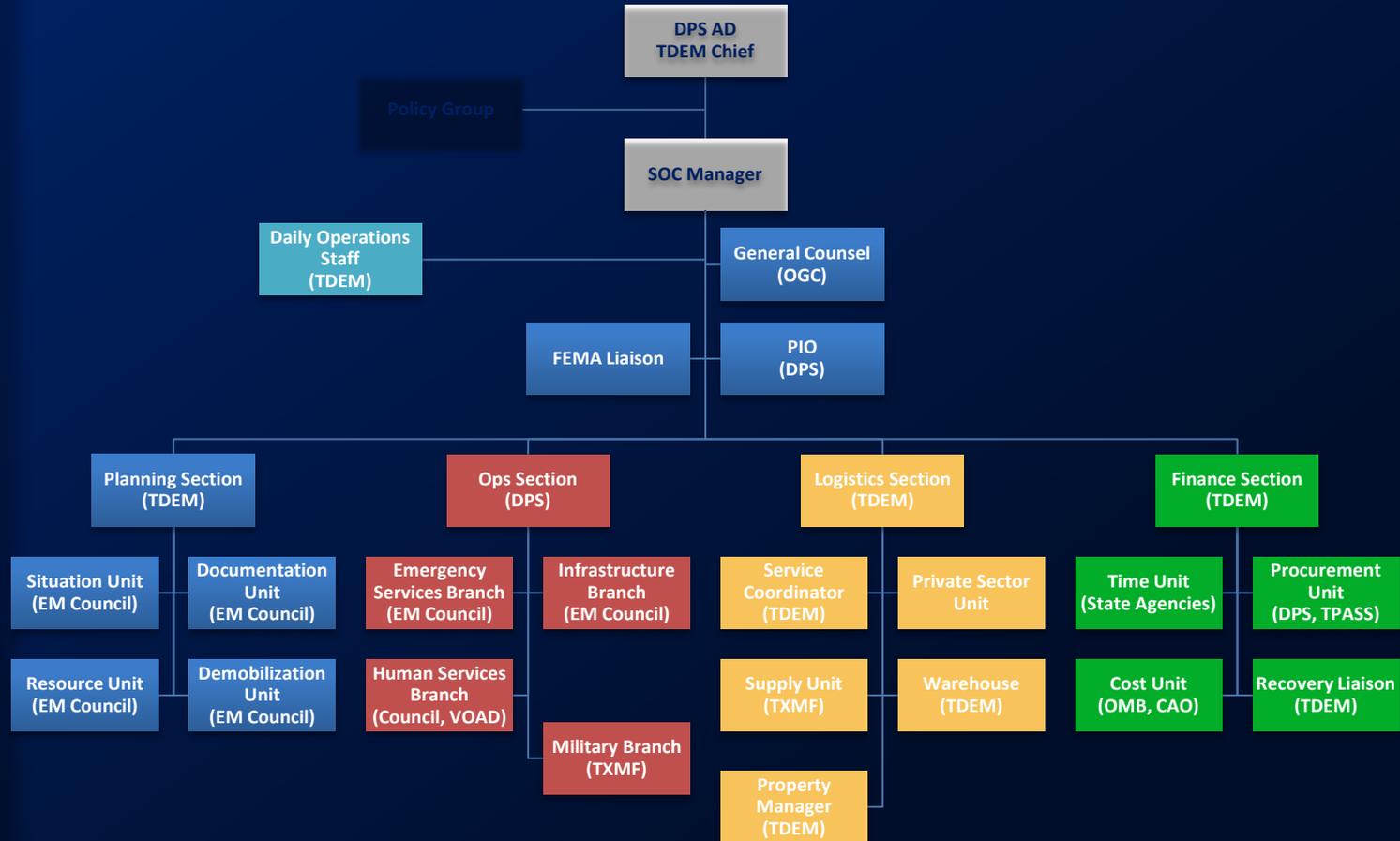
- Texas has 24 disaster districts.
- Each disaster district has a TDEM District Coordinator(s).
- Field Response State Coordinators oversee the team of district coordinators.





Emergency Management Council

- Adjutant General's Department
- American Red Cross
- Department of Information Resources
- General Land Office
- Texas Division of Emergency Management
- Texas Public Utility Commission
- The Salvation Army
- State Auditor's Office
- State Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Texas Animal Health Commission
- Texas Attorney General's Office
- Texas Procurement and Support Services
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Commission on Fire Protection
- Texas Department of Agriculture
- Texas Department of Criminal Justice
- Texas Department of State Health Services
- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- Texas Department of Insurance
- Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Engineering Extension Service
- Texas A&M Forest Service
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
- Texas Workforce Commission
- Texas Department of Family Protective Services
- Texas AgriLife Extension Service
- Texas Office of Court Administration





Emergency Operations

- Level IV Normal Conditions
- Level III Increased Readiness – Watch Conditions
- Level II High Readiness – Warning Conditions
- Level I Maximum Readiness – Emergency Conditions



State Operations Center (2015)





How do Texans Support Each Other?

DO:

- Relationship building **before** a disaster
- Combined planning, training and exercises

DON'T:

- Wait until a disaster happens
- Self-deploy

The Four Challenges





The Four Challenges

- **Be the Expert**



The Four Challenges

- Be the Expert
- **Stay in your lane**



The Four Challenges

- Be the Expert
- Stay in your lane
- **Collaborate at all cost**



The Four Challenges

- Be the Expert
- Stay in your lane
- Collaborate at all cost
- **Make a decision!**



Personal Responsibility

- Are you ready?
- Is your family prepared?
- Does your workplace have a plan?
- Does your church, place of worship or civic organization have a plan?
- Does your neighborhood have a plan?



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@TDEM

@TX_Alerts

@chiefkidd