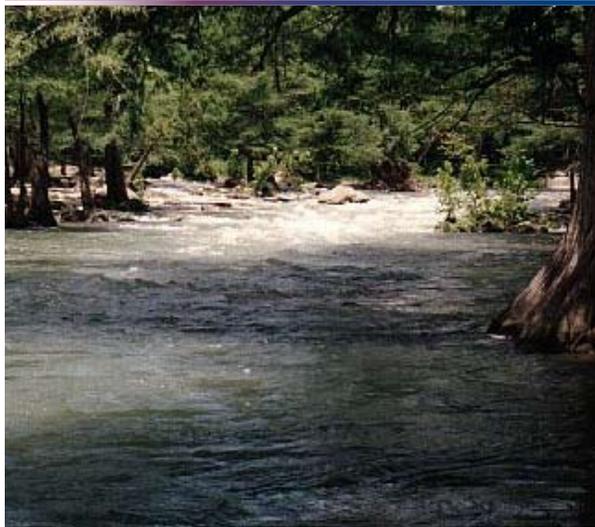


TX-TF1 MEMBERS HELP LOCATE MISSING WOMAN



On Sept. 18, 2007, the Governor’s Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) received a call from the Comal County Sheriff’s Office requesting assistance. A 25-year-old woman and her vehicle had been missing since August 11, when she drove away after an outing with friends who had spent the day tubing on the Comal River. Officials had new evidence indicating that she could have been swept away by floodwaters and had identified an area of the river to search. At the request of the Comal County Judge, GDEM sent a Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) water search team and management personnel to Comal County to assist with the search efforts along the Guadalupe River.



Working with the County Emergency Management Coordinator Carol Edgett and County Judge Dan Scheel, TX-TF1 formulated a plan to assist local officials to locate the missing woman. While agency personnel in College Station worked with Comal County officials to coordinate media inquiries, the TX-TF1 water search team leader in the field worked closely with the local incident commander in charge of the search.

In coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the flow of water was reduced from the Canyon Lake Dam, effectively lowering the water levels in the river to aid in the search. Local officials, with support from TX-TF1, determined the most appropriate areas of the river to search and efforts began at 10 a.m. The vehicle was located three hours later. County Judge Scheel credits TX-TF1 as being instrumental in assisting local officials to quickly locate and recover the victim, and he praised TX-TF1 for their model response to this type of incident.

Deployment Statistics

• Incident involved 4 personnel deployed for 1 day

- 1 Water Search Team
- 1 ESF-9 Coordinator assigned to the DDC
- ESF-9 Coordination Center in College Station was activated for this deployment