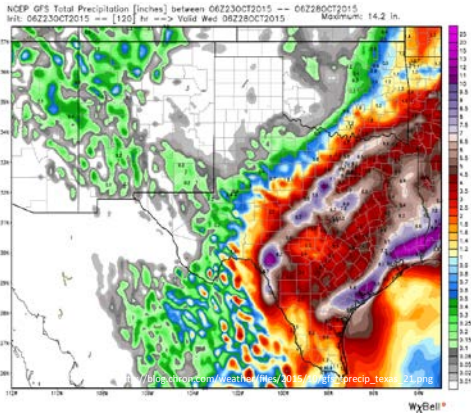


TEXAS TASK FORCE 1

ACTIVATES DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER ACROSS THE STATE

TX-TF1 Requested for Water Rescue Operations Across the State of Texas



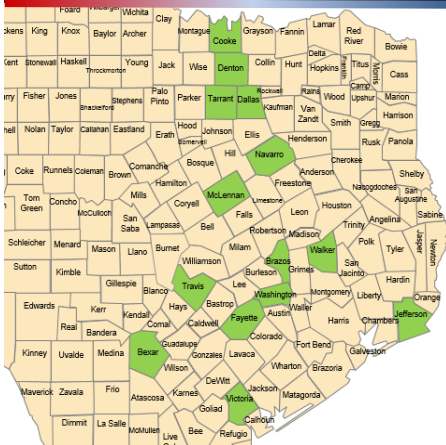
The National Hurricane Center (NHC) and the National Weather Service (NWS) first began to alert the Texas Department of Emergency (TDEM) of the severe weather in Texas early in the week of October 18th, 2015. The predicted severe weather was a result of a mixture of a strong system moving toward the state, Gulf & Western Caribbean moisture drawn northwest into Texas, and the remnants of Hurricane Patricia from the Pacific. As the week progressed, rainfall predictions continued to increase as Hurricane Patricia upgraded to a Category 5 hurricane and remained strong even after landfall.



On October 23, 2015, Texas Task Force One (TX-TF1) activated 7 Water Rescue Squads and 11 Helicopter Search and Rescue Technician (HSART) teams. These squads were mobilized around the state in order to respond to the severe weather. Locations for the squads included Waco, Corsicana, Austin, and San Antonio. Corsicana, TX, was among one of the hardest hit areas with floodwater shutting down I-45 and also derailing a train.

With rain continuing to fall and flooding continuing to increase, an 8th water rescue squad was activated on October 24. Water rescues continued across the state until the rain subsided on October 25, 2015 with TX-TF1 demobilized by 1830 hours.

During this event, TX-TF1 worked extensively with Texas Military Department, the Texas Department of Public Safety, and the Texas Department of Transportation in order to successfully complete 40 rescues, 7 evacuations, 4 assisting rescues to other agencies, vehicle checks when vehicles were found underwater. TX-TF1 units also provided and Just-In-Time training for state response partners.



Deployment Statistics

- Incident involved 8 water rescue squads, 3 water team managers, and 11 HSART with a total of 63 people deployed for 3 days
- Teams completed:
 - 40 Rescues
 - 7 Evacuations
 - 4 Assisting Rescues to other agencies

