**Event Name** | 19-0029 September Severe Weather Incident  
**Date** | September 17th, 2019  
**Time** | 1500  
**Operational Period** | 0800 September 17 – 0700 September 2019  
**Report Number** | 1  

| **Regions Affected** |  
**DPS Regions Affected** | 1, 2, 3, 6  
**DDCs Active** | 17, 16A, 16C  

**STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:** Governor Abbott has ordered the Texas State Operations Center (SOC) to elevate its readiness level as a Tropical Storm Imelda moves towards the Texas coast. The SOC increased its readiness level from Level IV (Normal Conditions) to Level III (Increased Readiness) beginning at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, September 17th, 2019. Additionally Governor Abbott placed numerous state resources on standby across the state.

Current Weather Situation: At 1200 PM CDT the center of Tropical Storm Imelda was located near latitude 28.7 North, longitude 95.4 West. The tropical storm was moving toward the north near 7 mph (11 km/h), and this general motion is expected to continue through early Wednesday. A north-northwestward motion is expected Wednesday night and Thursday. On the forecast track, the center of the storm will move inland over the Upper Texas coast later today, and move farther inland tonight and Wednesday. Maximum sustained winds are near 35 mph (55 km/h) with higher gusts. Some slight strengthening is possible before the center moves onshore. The storm is expected to produce total rainfall accumulation of 5 to 10 inches with isolated maximum of 15 inches across the upper coastal region of through Thursday. This rainfall may produce life-threatening flash floods. Tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area this Tuesday afternoon and evening.

**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.
River Flood Overview

Several Days of Rain Will Cause River Flooding for Southeast Texas

RIVERS OF CONCERN:

- **Primary Concern:** San Bernard, Lower Brazos, San Jacinta, Houston Bayous
- **Secondary Concern:** Tres Palacios, Lower Trinity (Neches, and Angelina later in the week)

TIMELINE:

- 9/17: Tuesday’s storms will prime the soils
- 9/18 – 9/19: As rainfall totals add up Wed. into Thurs., area rivers expected to flood

RAINFALL:

- Forecast rainfall totals: 8-10 inches with isolated 10-15 inches
- Rainfall intensity and duration will matter (especially Wed. and Thurs., after priming rains have saturated soils)
Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)

DDC 15 – Beaumont (Includes: Hardin, Jefferson and Orange Counties) – Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated to Level III (Increased Readiness) on Tuesday, September 17th.

DDC 16 – Houston (Includes: Chambers and Harris Counties) – DDC 16A Houston has activated to Level III (Increased Readiness). Harris County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated to Level III (Increased Readiness) on Tuesday, September 17th.

DDC 16 – Texas City (Includes: Brazoria and Galveston Counties) – Galveston County activated to Level III (Increased Readiness) on Tuesday, September 17th.

DDC 16 – Conroe (Includes: Liberty, Montgomery, Walker and Waller Counties) – DDC 16C Conroe has activated to Level III (Increased Readiness). Walker County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated to Level III (Increased Readiness) on Tuesday, September 17th.

DDC 16 – Rosenberg (Includes: Austin, Colorado, Fort Bend, Matagorda and Wharton Counties) – Fort Bend County Homeland Security and Emergency Management have increased to Level III (Increased Readiness) on Tuesday, September 17th.

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 17 – Victoria (Includes: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, Jackson and Victoria Counties) - The DDC activated to Level III (Increased Readiness) on Monday, September 16th.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS): Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) is providing support for the State Operations Center in Austin, and has Saw Squads and Short IMTs rostered on standby for response.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): Providing staffing at the SOC. In addition, DPS is monitoring this system and is prepared to assist as needed with additional trooper support.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT is monitoring this system and is prepared to assist as needed. Updating drivetexas.org with road condition changes.

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM): The State Management Team (SMT) conducted a tropical weather conference call on Monday with the local, state and federal partners, and will continue conducting conference calls until this system no longer poses a threat to the State of Texas. The SOC is facilitating information dissemination, coordinating resource requirements, and processing resource requests.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD has high profile vehicles (HPV) and aircraft resources staging to assist where required.
Texas Engineering and Extension Service (TEEX) Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1): TX-TF1 is staging resources to be available where needed.

**Normal SAR Resources 9-17-2019 0700**

This map depicts a snapshot in time. Resource locations are fluid based on response needs. Use normal resource request process for SAR assistance.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD is monitoring this system and is prepared to assist as needed. TPWD SAR personnel are monitoring the weather and readily available to travel down to supplement local resources and assist with search and rescue efforts if needed.
**Event:** 19-0029 Sept. SW  
**Date:** 9/17/19  
**Time:** 1500

**Search and Rescue Command**  
Major of Special Operations - Brent Satsky  
Search and Rescue Captain - Andrew Alexander

**State-Wide Personnel:**  
(57) Game Warden Search and Rescue Operators  
(13) Game Warden Rescue Swimmers

**State Resources Committed**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Resource Kind and Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Resource Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TFS</td>
<td>Incident Management Teams</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Standby</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFS</td>
<td>SAW Crews</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Standby</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMD</td>
<td>Ground Transportation mission ready packages activated. (10 high profile vehicles with personnel and support staff.)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>En route Houston (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMD</td>
<td>UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters with hoists alerted.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Alerted</td>
<td>San Antonio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td>Helicopter with hoist capabilities and crew; Austin</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td>Boat teams (2 Game Wardens per boat) within and just outside the possibly affected area in Trinity, Bastrop, and Aransas Counties.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>Trinity Co. – Trinity Bastrop Co. – Bastrop Aransas Co. - Rockport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td>Boat teams (2 Game Wardens per boat) that could support inland areas affected by flash flooding in Medina and McLennan Counties.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>Medina Co. – Hondo McLennan Co. - Waco</td>
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<tr>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td>Airboats (2 Game Wardens per boat), Region 2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>Houston/Galveston</td>
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<tr>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td>Flat Bottom Boats (2 Game Wardens per boat), Region 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>Houston/Galveston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td>Fuel Trailer, Region 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>Houston/Galveston</td>
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<tr>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td>Command staff to support response operations and DDC staffing, Region 2.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td>Command staff to support SOC activation.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>SOC/Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TXDOR</td>
<td>High profile vehicles with personnel alerted.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Standby</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX-TF1</td>
<td>High profile vehicles</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Galveston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX-TF1</td>
<td>Boat squads (Each squad consists of 2 boats and 6 personnel.)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Activated</td>
<td>Victoria (2) Galveston (2) College Station (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX-TF1</td>
<td>Water rescue managers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Houston/Galveston</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX-TF1</td>
<td>Staff to support SOC activation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>SOC/Austin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Level III (Increased Readiness). 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/](https://tdem.texas.gov/)*

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