

TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Texas IPAWS Overview



Texas Alerting Approval Authority

- Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) is the approver of PAA (Public Alerting Authority) Applications, for entities that request Alerting Authorization in Texas, to include Texarkana (TX/AR).
- There are approximately 100 Texas entities per FEMA IPAWS as being ONLINE to send IPAWS Alerts. We are using the FEMA Quarterly Report as a tool to help identify entities that are in the FEMA IPAWS system. Not all entities are “ONLINE”.
- Not all systems listed as “ONLINE” are sending alerts. Many are still working on internal training and procedures, before they feel confident to send alerts.



Monthly Proficiency Demonstration (MPD) with TSSF Scenario



Monthly Proficiency Demonstrations

- Why?

- # 1: It's REQUIRED

- Practice
 - Practice alert text
 - Lessen errant alerts
 - Evaluate software capabilities
 - Improve processes and procedures
 - Build templates, Evaluate employee capabilities

- The Rules:

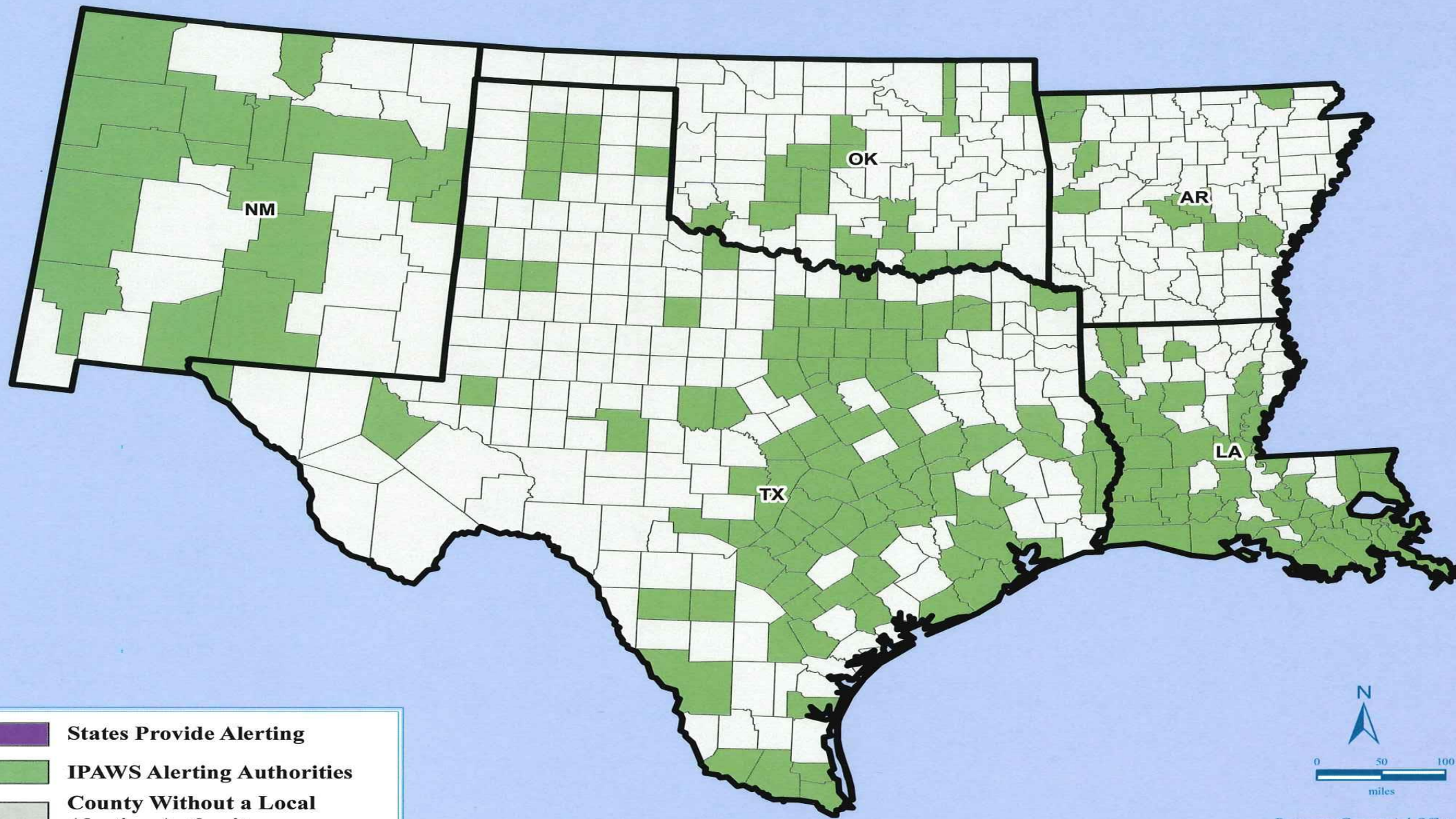
- Send a successful WEA and/or EAS message to the Test/Demo environment every month
 - A LIVE alert does not fulfill your requirement
 - Miss 1 month = kind reminder
 - Miss 2 months = State authority notified
 - Miss 3 months = lose access to the IPAWS Live environment



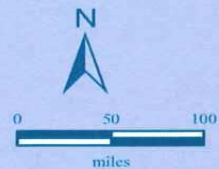


FEMA

IPAWS Region 6 Adoption by County (As of April, 2023)



- States Provide Alerting
- IPAWS Alerting Authorities
- County Without a Local Alerting Authority



Response Geospatial Office
04/2023 – IPAWS, HSIP, Esri



TDEM
WEBEOC
IPAWS BOARD





Texas IPAWS
 23-0005 SEVERE/WINTER WEATHER 29JAN

Full List View

CURRENT MONTH STATUS: ONLINE (92) [CREATE NEW +](#) [FILTER/SEARCH](#)

COG Name	IPAWS Product	IPAWS Vendor	Current Month Status	Current Month Demo Status	Date PAA Approved By State	Date MOA Approved By FEMA	
Rockwall County			ONLINE	ONLINE	10/16/2020 00:00:00	11/16/2020 00:00:00	...
City of Aransas Pass			ON HOLD	ON HOLD			...
Pharr Public Safety Communications			ONLINE	ONLINE	03/17/2020 00:00:00	04/17/2020 00:00:00	...
Reeves County	Hyper Reach		ONLINE	ONLINE	03/16/2019 00:00:00	04/16/2019 00:00:00	...
Presidio County Emergency Management			NEEDS PAA	NEEDS PAA		03/10/2020 00:00:00	...
Pecos County	Hyper Reach		RETURN MOA	RETURN MOA			...
Parmer County Sheriff's Office			RETURN MOA	RETURN MOA			...
Parker County Office of Emergency Management			ONLINE	ONLINE	10/04/2020 00:00:00	11/04/2020 00:00:00	...
Ochiltree County Sheriff Office			RETURN MOA	RETURN MOA			...
Oak Ridge North Police Department			RETURN MOA	RETURN MOA			...
North Central Texas Emergency Communications District 9-1-1			ONLINE	ONLINE	06/30/2020 00:00:00	07/30/2020 00:00:00	...
Nacogdoches County			ONLINE	ONLINE	05/16/2022 00:00:00	06/16/2022 00:00:00	...
Moore County Office of Emergency Management			ONLINE	ONLINE	02/10/2022 00:00:00	03/10/2022 00:00:00	...
Midlothian Police Department Emergency Management	Civic Ready		NEEDS PAA + EMI	NEEDS PAA + EMI		10/25/2022 00:00:00	...
Matagorda County	Cassidian Communication Geo Cast		ONLINE	ONLINE	11/03/2021 00:00:00	12/03/2021 00:00:00	...
Llano County			ONLINE	ONLINE	02/10/2022 00:00:00	03/10/2022 00:00:00	...
Kleberg County Sheriff's Office			SUSPENDED - PROF DEMO	SUSPENDED - PROF DEMO	09/17/2019 00:00:00	10/17/2019 00:00:00	...
Kerr County	Code Red		ONLINE	ONLINE	05/04/2021 00:00:00	06/04/2021 00:00:00	...



Record Details
BOARD RECORD

Details View

[RETURN](#) [EDIT RECORD](#)

COG Information

COG ID: 202028 Demo COG ID: 302028
COG Name: Rockwall County COG Type: Local

Address: 972 T.L. Townsend Drive Rockwall, TX 75087



Latitude: 32.919874 Longitude: -96.453448 Lat/Long: 32.919874, -96.453448

DDC: DDC 04B Garland County: Rockwall County
City: Rockwall Region: Region 1

Status

Previous Month Status: Online Current Month Status: Online

Comments:

Monthly Demonstration

Previous Month Demo Status: Online Current Month Demo Status: Online

Comments:

IPAWS Information

IPAWS Product:

Cross Jurisdictional Support in Sending IPAWS Alerts

In an emergency, FEMA IPAWS can send alerts on behalf of an Authorized Alerting Entity / local jurisdiction. They have a 24/7 Tech Service Support Section that can send alerts if needed. However, it is not immediate, as the alert and the requesting entity must be verified. Prior to going directly to FEMA IPAWS, the locals should be aware of the alerting process in their area.

Simple Process Flow: Local > County > COG – Regional Plan > State > FEMA

FEMA should be the last resort in case the locals cannot contact other possible Alerting Entities within the state. Also, the local SHOULD NOT go to FEMA if the request was denied by authorized Alerting Authorities within the state.

Annual Certification to be Required

There is a coming requirement for all IPAWS Alerting Authorities to receive an Annual Certification / Re-Certification. What that will entail is unknown at this time. There are questions such as if an Alerting Authority has more than one alerting product, will they be required to be certified on each product or just one, if an Alerting Authority is part of a group of jurisdictions under a shared plan, will each Alerter have to be certified annually or the primary owner of the product license. Also, is the certification for the agency or the individuals authorized to send alerts or if hosted, is it the hosting service that must recertify annually. Many questions to be answered.



FCC Actions Affecting Wireless Emergency Alerts

Nov 2023 Press Release

- **Multilingual Alerting**

- Mobile devices will be required to display alerts in 13 languages, in addition to English and American Sign Language.¹ Translated message templates will be pre-installed on devices. The FCC will not require Alerting Authorities to use templates, but will require mobile service providers to support them should Alerting Authorities wish to use them at their discretion.

- ¹ The 13 languages include Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Arabic, French, Korean, Russian, Haitian Creole, German, Hindi, Portuguese and Italian.



FCC Actions Affecting Wireless Emergency Alerts

- Performance and Public Awareness Testing :

- **DANGER WILL ROBINSON DANGER**

- Alerting Authorities will be allowed to send two 'live' WEA tests (using imminent-threat event codes or public-safety event codes such as CEM or LAE) to the public per county (or county equivalent) per year without FCC approval.

- Before conducting such a live test, an Alerting Authority must conduct outreach and notify the public in advance of the planned WEA test and that no emergency is, in fact, occurring. **The test message must say it is only a test. The test must be coordinated** among participating mobile service providers that serve the area targeted by the test, as well as state, local, tribal and territorial emergency authorities, relevant State Emergency Communications Committees and first-responder organizations.

- Alerting Authorities must provide notification to the public in widely accessible formats that the test is only a test and is not a warning about an actual emergency. These are the same preconditions attendant to conducting an EAS live code test.



TDEM IPAWS POC

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FEMA IPAWS Contact Info

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