**Type - SEARCH OPERATIONS (WATER)** 

## 

On May 3, 2005, GDEM received a call from Garza County officials requesting assistance after a Garza County resident who had been involved in a boating accident on Lake Alan Henry went missing. As a result, GDEM activated a TX-TF1 Search Management Team to assist local officials as well as a local HR detection canine group to provide canine HR search teams to assist and work under the direction of TX-TF1. TX-TF1 worked with the local Incident Commander to formulate a plan to help locate the missing boater and determined the most appropriate areas of the lake to search.

At approximately 12:00 p.m. on May 3, TX-TF1 personnel were notified that an abandoned vehicle was also discovered close to the same lake and the driver was missing. The driver of the vehicle had been missing for several days and the two incidents were at the same lake but unrelated.

As a result, TX-TF1 then organized a land and water based search for the missing driver. TX-TF1 personnel identified a possible location for the missing driver and advised the Incident Commander. Due to the large trees and shrubs along the shoreline, there was a high potential for drowning victims to become trapped below the waterline. TX-TF1 personnel advised the local Incident Commander that a diver was the only way to fully search an area for a missing person.

By the evening of May 3, the TX-TF1 personnel had identified and advised the local Incident Commander of potential locations for both the missing boater and the missing driver. Search operations were ceased after sunset for safety reasons and because the local Incident Commander did not require any more assistance with the search operations, TX-TF1 personnel were then demobilized.







