

## TX-TF1 DEPLOYS SEVEN SWIFT WATER RESCUE TEAMS



Heavy rains began saturating northern Texas in June 18, 2007. The Governor's Division of Emergency Management requested Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) to place swift water rescue boats and search canine assets on standby, but did not activate resources until June 25. Rainfall during the previous 30-45 days had left much of Central, North Central, North, Northeast and East Texas at a high risk of flash flooding and sustained flooding. Dangerous flash flooding was imminent due to saturated ground.



On June 25, Gov. Rick Perry directed that Search and Rescue resources be brought to a high level of readiness and that appropriate elements be pre-deployed in order to provide a rapid response capability. TEEX activated elements of TX-TF1 to complete immediate critical planning for Search and Rescue (SAR) operations focusing on areas near and north of Dallas/Fort Worth. TX-TF1 activated two Swift Water Rescue Teams, a Water Strike Team logistics support trailer, and a Command Element that included a communications support satellite with ground/air interoperability.

Responders also deployed to Bexar County where the City of San Antonio requested the assistance of TX-TF1 with water rescues. There were a total of 64 flooded roadways in San Antonio and 4 in Bexar County. TX-TF1 conducted 52 water rescues in San Antonio and 26 rescues in Bexar County on June 28.

### Deployment Statistics

- Incident involved 47 personnel deployed for 5 days
  - 7 Swift Water Rescue Teams (5 personnel per team)
    - 5 teams conducted search and rescue operations in Marble Falls
    - 2 teams staged in Austin at the Austin Travis County EMS hangar
  - 1 ESF-9 Liaison was assigned to RLO 6B and located at the Burnet Airport Two
  - 2 HH-60's were located at Burnet Airport to provide search and rescue aviation assets
    - 2 TX-TF1 helicopter rescue swimmers are co-located with these HH-60 aircraft
  - 1 ESF-9 Coordinator assigned at the State Operations Center
  - Swift water rescue logistics personnel with trailer and communications package were deployed with the teams in Marble Falls.

