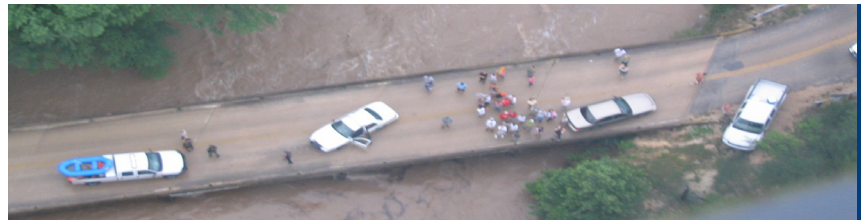


TX-TF1 RESCUE SWIMMERS DEPLOYED ABOARD TEXAS MILITARY FORCES HELICOPTERS



Heavy rains in May 2007 left many Texas rivers and lakes at capacity with minor to moderate flooding in some areas. On May 26 at 3 p.m., the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) authorized Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) to activate 4 helicopter water rescue teams. The teams forward-deployed to the New Braunfels area on May 26 and stood ready to support rescue operations in Central and Southern Texas. A request from Comal County was sent via GDEM for assistance to rescue stranded citizens. TX-TF1 and the Texas Military Forces (TMF) assisted in the rescue of 13 persons trapped by rising waters on the Guadalupe River in New Braunfels. The rescue consisted of a HH-60 Blackhawk helicopter and TX-TF1 rescue swimmers working together to load and evacuate a family to safety, including children.

Impact of the May 2007 Heavy Rains on Texas Rivers:

Lower Brazos Basin: The Navasota River flooded at the upper ends of the basin. Lake Mexia and Lake Limestone were both full and remained full through the week.

Lavaca-Navidad Basin: Heavy rains over the Lavaca-Navidad produced moderate flooding on several river basins. Moderate flooding occurred on the Navidad River at Morales and Strane Park.

Trinity Basin: Moderate flooding occurred on Chambers Creek near Rice. Minor flooding occurred on the West Fork near Boyd. Lake Worth was full and spilling. A non-flooding wave of water was generated on the mainstream of the river and reservoir releases added to the flow. The wave worked its way down toward Lake Livingston early the following week.

Guadalupe Basin: Runoff from small areas of heavy rain in the New Braunfels region produced some minor flood levels for a short time Sunday night but the levels quickly receded. There were also some minor rises on the Blanco and San Marcos rivers that moved downstream later that week to produce higher flows at a few points from Gonzales to Victoria, and minor flood levels at Bloomington.

Sabine Basin: Very heavy rainfall over the Upper Sabine River produced minor but near moderate flooding at Greenville and minor flooding at Quinlan.

Deployment Statistics

- 8 personnel deployed for 4 days
- 4 helicopter water rescue strike teams

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