



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	26-0016 New World Screwworm Response
Date	June 8, 2026
Time	4:00 PM
Reporting Period	2:00 PM June 7, 2026, to 2:00 PM June 8, 2026
Report Number	2

TDEM Regions Affected	6
Disaster Districts Activated	None

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On June 8, Gov. Abbott [directed](#) TDEM to activate the Texas State Emergency Operations Center to Level II (Escalated Response) to support the state’s New World Screwworm response operations.

Resources from multiple state agency partners and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are being leveraged in response to this parasite detection.

On June 5, following confirmation of NWS detection in Texas, Governor Abbott received a briefing and provided an update to Texans on the state’s response at the Texas State Emergency Operations Center. The Governor also [issued](#) an updated state disaster declaration to address NWS and prioritize operations in Uvalde and Zavala counties.

On January 26, Governor Abbott issued a statewide disaster declaration certifying that the spread of NWS threatened Texas’s livestock industry and economy and posed an imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage for all Texas counties. The declaration also authorized the use of all available resources of state government to cope with this disaster, and allowed for the allocation of state resources to address the spread of the parasite to the Texas NWS response team.

On June 25, 2025, Governor Abbott directed the Texas Animal Health Commission and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to establish a joint Texas New World Screwworm Response Team to lead the state’s prevention and response efforts.

For more than 18 months since being informed of a positive case of NWS in Mexico, the USDA has been working to combat the impacts in coordination with state and local partners. Such measures by the USDA include importing and dispersing sterile flies in South Texas, outreach with local producers, as well as building a facility to assist with sterile fly operations.

The Texas Emergency Management Council continues to monitor developments.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

- Protect life and property.
- Support rapid & effective response.
- Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
- Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):

On June 3, 2026, TAHC received confirmation of a detection of New World screwworm (NWS) in a three-week-old calf with umbilical lesion located in Zavala County. TAHC is working closely with USDA and other state officials in a joint incident response.

To prevent further spread of NWS, TAHC issued an Executive Director Order to place a [quarantine](#) on all warm-blooded animals in the identified infested zone (Infested Zone 01). [Infested Zone 01](#) is subject to the following animal movement restrictions:

Warm-blooded animals located within Infested Zone 01 may not be moved outside of the zone without prior authorization from the Commission. Any person in possession or control of such animals must obtain permission and comply with all conditions set by the Commission before transporting the animals beyond the quarantine boundaries.

To move warm-blooded animals outside of Infested Zone 01, the animal must be inspected and treated as required by the Commission and issued a permit or certificate for movement by a Commission representative.

Hides, carcasses, and parts of any animal capable of serving as a host for NWS must be inspected and undergo any treatment deemed necessary by a Commission representative prior to removal from the Infested Zone 01.

Unauthorized movement is prohibited and subject to administrative penalties and/or criminal prosecution.

This order was issued and remains in effect, pursuant to Texas Agriculture Code, Chapters 161 – 168, and applicable regulations found in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code, Part 2, Chapters 31-60. This order remains in effect until the quarantine is released by the Commission.

On June 5, 2026, a second case was confirmed by the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL). The confirmed case was found in a one-month-old calf in Zavala County, approximately 5.6 miles away from the first confirmed detection.

TAHC and USDA APHIS will continue to collect and test other samples from the surrounding area, as they are reported, submit suspect NWS flies to the NVSL for prompt identification, and will continue to monitor the treatment of infested cases. TAHC has a staff member serving as the interface/liason with landowners/producers regarding all prevention, quarantine, and animal inspection activities occurring on premises.

TAHC is working in coordination with the USDA to expand fly trapping and surveillance efforts to identify any additional flies in the area and investigate potential suspect cases in animals. NWS fly traps are being placed on technical specialists' recommendations along the Texas-Mexico border and within the infested and adjacent zones. Interface with landowners/producers is occurring regarding prevention activities on premises (i.e., trap placement, monitoring, fly collection, fly initial identification/screening). Triage of collected suspect flies will be performed and samples will be shipped to NVSL.

Targeted release of sterile NWS flies has been expedited to eliminate any reproducing populations in the area associated with the detection. Interface with landowners/producers is occurring regarding prevention activities on premises (ground release chamber placement, monitoring, pupae placement, chamber maintenance).

On June 7, 2026, the third detection of NWS was confirmed in La Salle County, Texas. The confirmed case was found in a one-week-old calf. This case will lead to an additional infested zone in Webb and La Salle County.

On June 8, 2026, the USDA announced the positive confirmation of New World Screwworm in a dog in Andrews County, Texas. Additional epidemiological investigations are occurring to learn more about the situation. According to USDA, early reports indicate the dog was recently in Mexico and would be considered a movement related case.

NWS Statistics

as of 6/8/26 at 3:00pm:

Zavala County:

- Confirmed cases: 2
- Species affected: bovine

La Salle County:

- Confirmed case: 1
- Species: bovine

Andrews County:

- Confirmed case:1
- Species: canine

Contact the TAHC immediately with any suspect NWS identified in livestock or domestic animals. Contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) for wildlife infestation information and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) for human infestation information.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD):

TPWD will continue to protect the State's natural resources including fish and wildlife through land based and marine patrol. TPWD will serve as a force multiplier responding to requests for support from our federal, state, and local partners to prevent, detect, control, or eradicate parasitic disease outbreaks. TPWD will deploy coordinated resources to prevent, detect, control, and eradicate parasitic disease within the Texas-Mexico Border region.

TPWD staff will coordinate native wildlife surveillance efforts which will include:

- Working with landowners to organize active wildlife surveillance on their properties
- Inspection of hunter harvested carcasses when necessary and including animals harvested in State Parks and WMAs.
- Inspection of recently road-killed wildlife.
- Inspection of animals handled as part of routine wildlife handling, whether that is by agencies, researchers, or other entities that encounter wildlife on a regular basis. WS does a great job of this currently.
- Reporting from wildlife rehabbers, private practice vets, law enforcement, taxidermists, game processors, and the public.

TPWD has Texas Game Wardens, State Park Officers, and Wildlife Biologists prepared to respond and support operations as needed. TPWD Wildlife Biologists have contacted

200 landowners within the infestation and surveillance zones to coordinate potential interest in NWS surveillance on private lands. Outreach messaging has been developed by TPWD and has been distributed via social media regarding NWS detections and awareness.

As of June 7, TPWD Wildlife Biologists spoke with 92 landowners and left messages for 37 additional landowners within the incident zone and surveillance zone. TPWD has identified 74 additional landowners and two additional permitted deer breeders in the expanded surveillance zone.

TPWD Wildlife Biologists are actively contacting deer breeders to inform them of the La Salle IZ and SZ to inform them of the situation and provide information regarding the TAHC Quarantine rules and movement restrictions.

TPWD staff identified and secured permission from TPWD cooperating landowners for 30 fly trapping locations, including one on South Llano River State Park.

TPWD staff continue to respond to reports of suspected NWS cases statewide. TPWD continues to coordinate daily operations with TAHC, USDA and TDEM at the ICP.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife):

Currently the AgriLife Extension SOC liaison, Public Information Officer (PIO), Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Team Members, DAR Administration, Extension Administration and County Extension Agents are monitoring NWS movement and conditions, SOC response activity and participating in weekly communication calls with Extension Administration, Entomologists and Livestock Specialists. Disaster Assessment and Recovery Specialists are on standby to support County Extension Agents and ESF-11 partners with public education, animal response and recovery efforts as requested.

Since June 2025, leading up to the first confirmed NWS case in Texas, AgriLife has:

- Conducted 284 educational programs on NWS reaching over 21,200 participants.
- Established an 18-member working group of Extension Specialists across livestock, wildlife, and human disciplines focused on development of educational information, outreach techniques, and resources for use by County Extension Agents and other appropriate Extension personnel across Texas.
- Two internal staff NWS webinar trainings completed by 500 AgriLife Extension and AgriLife Research personnel, were conducted with training support from the Texas Animal Health Commission and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.
- Hosted a hands-on professional development NWS workshop hosted at the San

Antonio Livestock Show Ground for 126 AgriLife Extension and AgriLife Research personnel. In addition to others in attendance at this workshop, County Extension Agents (CEAs) from 48 of the southern and western Texas Counties were in attendance.

- Developed a County Extension NWS Educational Tool kit complete with videos and PowerPoint Slide Decks for use in local producer and community educational outreach efforts.
- Through a grant from USDA-APHIS, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension has distributed 1,000 NWS larva collection kits among the Southern and Western County Extension offices for use in NWS detection and identification.
- AgriLife Extension is wrapping up the development of a course that will train people on what to do and expect related to the occurrence of NWS. Maintenance and management of this course will be provided by AgriLife Extension.
- Provided expertise with local and state government representatives to better inform their preparation should an incident occur.
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension livestock entomology specialist conducted a NWS awareness training during the monthly meeting of the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) Agricultural Committee, as well as a more in-depth training during the May 2026 EDEN webinar hosted by the EDEN professional development committee.
- Educational outreach resources developed:

Livestock Focused-

What to Do if You Suspect New World Screwworm in Your Herd - Practical, step-by-step guidance for producers, emphasizing rapid response and biosecurity. Livestock Management Considerations for New World Screwworm – Management and seasonal planning guidance designed to reduce infestation risk in livestock operations.

Rethinking Livestock Management to Consider Screwworm - Educational resource discussing longer-term livestock management strategies considering renewed screwworm threats. A Spanish version has also been developed.

NWS Threat to Swine Producers

Wildlife Focused-

Wildlife Monitoring and Management for New World Screwworm –

A dedicated fact sheet providing monitoring, detection and reporting guidance for free-ranging wildlife populations. A Spanish version has also been developed.

Human and Companion Animal-focused

New World Screwworm Myiasis: Protecting Human Health - Educational material explaining the rare but possible risk to humans and appropriate protective measures.

Companion Animal Care in the Face of the New World Screwworm (NWS)

Threat Guidance for dog and cat owners on prevention, detection and response.
A Spanish version has also been developed.

In addition, AgriLife has had staff serving with the state NWS joint information center and as a liaison in the SOC.

The AgriLife DAR PIO is providing educational resources and statements for county officials, fielding news media inquiries, and providing daily briefings during joint information center (JIC) calls attended by State Agency partners. AgriLife continues to distribute fact sheets and general NWS information on the website. More than 25 media interviews were scheduled with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Entomology Leads between June 4-5.

June 8, 2026

- AgriLife Extension and Research leadership, subject matter experts and partners are currently working to develop a NWS Inspector Training Course partnering with USDA and TAHC, with goals to complete the first version of the module by June 12.
- TVMDL has deployed a trained entomologist to establish a NWS identification lab at the Uvalde AgriLife Research and Extension Center. The College Station lab has also established an identification lab and is developing a real-time PCR testing protocol should high-throughput testing be needed.
- The Cross-Border Threat Screening and Supply Chain Defense Center in AgriLife Research (a Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence) has initiated a training and workforce readiness program (i.e., developing NWS-focused in-person and virtual training) for DHS Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Field Operations (OFO) and Border Patrol, emphasizing species identification (adults, larvae, and wound stages), clinical signs, field triage, and coordination with local veterinary practitioners, USDA, and state animal health officials.
- Drs. Cliff Lamb, Phillip Kaufman, Jeffrey Savell, Rick Avery, and Kiril Dimitrov are attending a briefing at the Knipling-Bushland US Livestock Insects Research Laboratory in Kerrville.

June 7, 2026

- Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory personnel are enroute and tracking the arrival of the USDA Mobile Detection Unit to the AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Uvalde.

June 6, 2026

- AgriLife Extension Associate Director, Dr. Dan Hale, is coordinating an NWS Training Module with AgriLife Extension Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), the USDA,

and Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC).

June 5, 2026

- AgriLife Extension Director Rick Avery and DAR Director Monty Dozier, Extension Entomologist Dr. Phillip Kaufman and Government Relations Officer Julia Crane participated in the Governor's Press Briefing & Conference at the State Operations Center. Associate Director/SOC Liaison Rachel Bauer, PIO Blair Fannin also attended the Press Conference at the SOC.
- 268 AgriLife DAR Specialists, Regional & District Leadership and County Extension personnel participated in a NWS Discussion TEAMS Session with Extension Entomologist Dr. Sonia Swiger, Extension Livestock Specialists Dr. Karl Harborth and Dr. Ron Gill, and Extension Wildlife Specialist Dr. Marcus Blum.

June 4, 2026

- After confirmation of the positive NWS case in Zavala County on June 3, a DAR Specialist and Area Chief are monitoring the DDEOC activation and attending daily briefings for situational awareness. The DAR Specialist is providing support and educational information on NWS to the CEA and local Emergency Management officials.
- 26 Disaster Assessment and Recovery Specialists and 4 Area Chiefs are on standby to support TAHC, USDA- APHIS with ESF 11 response efforts if requested.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):

DSHS State Medical Operations Center (SMOC) is at limited activation in support of this incident.

There are currently no human cases of NWS in Texas. DSHS is prepared to support, as needed, to assist in protecting the Texas livestock industry and wildlife. DSHS is ready to respond to human cases, should that occur.

As of June 8:

- Texas Meat Safety Assurance inspectors and veterinarians stand ready to detect NWS infected animals, should they be presented for inspected harvest. DSHS will continue to coordinate with colleagues at Texas Animal Health Commission to properly handle affected tissues and any associated larvae.
- Every animal harvested for entry into commerce is inspected by state or federal inspectors. Wounds that are infested with NWS can be expected to be detected by routine inspection practices.
- DSHS is working with Joint Information Center partners to support and amplify food safety messaging
 - Currently developing new food safety FAQ for DSHS NWS website; social media

- DSHS continues to encourage animal control officers to take calls from the public and answer their general questions or direct them to online resources.
- DSHS Public Health Region (PHR) 8's Regional Health and Medical Operations Center (RHMOC) changed their activation level to Increased Readiness.
- DSHS is planning a Provider Webinar the week of June 15th. Date/time to be confirmed.

As of June 7:

- A new USDA NWS detections dashboard is live on the Confirmed Detection of NWS website.
- DSHS Zoonosis Control is supporting the Unified Command on any NWS inquiries, including small animal NWS suspects.
- DSHS Regional Veterinarian provided a list of Animal Control Officer (ACO) contacts in Zavala and the surrounding counties to the Federal Unified Command Liaison in Eagle Pass, to coordinate specimen collection of stray animals, if TAHC resources are not available. It is always preferred to use a local veterinarian, but on weekends or at night, those resources may not be available.

As of June 6:

- The current priority for the agency is food safety and messaging around the safe consumption of meat in Texas.
- DSHS is actively collaborating with TAHC, TPWD, AgriLife, and other state partners.
- DSHS is actively collaborating with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on human health aspects of NWS, including specimen collection, submission, and larval identification and messaging alignment.
- On June 5, DSHS released Spanish-language version of the NWS awareness news release that was previously released on June 4th.
- DSHS is currently conducting a social media campaign on awareness, prevention, and food safety, focusing traffic to the DSHS news release.
- Amplifying partner messaging (TAHC, TPWD, USDA, AgriLife).
- DSHS is maintaining the agency's current NWS website with FAQs and partner resources.
- Future DSHS communications focus will be on food supply safety messaging and a new FAQ for week of June 8.
- DSHS regional office distributed TAHC release through established regional stakeholder contact lists which includes:
 - Animal Control Officers (ACOs)
 - Doctors of Veterinary Medicine (DVMs)
 - Local Health Departments (LHDs)

- Local Health Authorities (LHAs)
- Hospitals
- Infection Prevention and Control practitioners (ICPs)
- Emergency Management Coordinators (EMCs)
- Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas (KTTT).
- DSHS regional office hosted a New World Screwworm update call on Thursday, June 4 with Public Health Region 8 emergency managers, local health departments, and Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)
- DSHS regional office conducted outreach with Southwest Texas Veterinary Medical Center in Uvalde and provided the latest TAHC guidance and American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) resources related to NWS detection and reporting.
- DSHS regional office provided the FDA Dear Veterinarian letter published June 5, 2026 to all veterinarians in Public Health Region 8 with conditionally approved drugs for treating NWS myiasis.
- DSHS has been participating in preparedness efforts for NWS for over a year, to include over 10 trainings, exercises and outreach activities with multiple local, state, and federal partners. One of the trainings DSHS recently provided in May, was a virtual NWS training for Animal Control Officers where 183 participants from all 8 PHRs participated.

Upcoming/Planned Activities

DSHS regional office will conduct outreach activities with the La Salle County Commissioners Court, Edwards County Commissioners Court, and Zavala County Commissioners Court the week of June 8-10.

- DSHS regional office will conduct a meeting with the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas Clinic and Emergency Management partners to review NWS detection, reporting, and awareness procedures.
- DSHS is continuing development on a healthcare provider webinar focused on NWS. Webinar details to follow within the next few days.

On June 5:

- DSHS Zoonosis Control (ZCB) remains in communication with officials at TAHC, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and other relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- DSHS Communications is operating under a JIC structure in coordination with TAHC and TPWD.
 - DSHS developed a webpage for relevant information on NWS.
 - DSHS will redistribute the previously issued Health Alert from September 2025 containing NWS clinical guidance to medical providers in the affected area.

- DSHS Laboratory will facilitate human specimen submission, perform initial identification on samples received, and forward potentially positive samples to CDC for confirmation
- DSHS' Meat Safety Assurance program and Milk and Dairy Operations program remain involved in examining livestock to ensure that they do not have signs of disease or pest to include NWS.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):

- TxDOT is coordinating with and allowing TAHC to place specialized fly traps in state-maintained Right-of-Ways (ROW) in South Texas.
- TxDOT provided online identification and reporting information to all TxDOT offices, statewide.
- TxDOT is supporting the State Operations Center and will continue to coordinate with and support state agency partners' efforts.

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM):

As of June 8, 2026, the SOC has activated to Level II – Escalated Response in support of the New World Screwworm incident. The SOC is directing interagency coordination to maintain unified communication, deploy necessary resources, and support response operations in affected regions across Texas.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TDEM	ICP Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Eagle Pass
TDEM	SOC Support	20	6	Assigned	SOC
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	Administration	3	3	Assigned	College Station
AgriLife	SMEs	16	16	Assigned	Statewide
AgriLife	PIO	1	1	Assigned	College Station
AgriLife	DAR Specialists/ Area Chiefs	2	2	Assigned	DD 24/South Region AC
AgriLife	DAR Specialists/ Area Chiefs	28	20	Activated	Statewide
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	1	1	Assigned	Zavala County
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	250+	0	Activated	Statewide
TAHC	Emergency	1	0	Released	SOC

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
	Management				
TAHC	Administration	1	0	Assigned	Eagle Pass
TAHC	IMT	7	0	Assigned	Eagle Pass
TAHC	Response Staff	35	41	Assigned	Uvalde & Zavala Co.
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	SOC
TPWD	Game Wardens/ State Park Police	500	500	Available	Statewide
TPWD	Game Wardens	3	3	Assigned	TDEM Region 6/Zavala Co.
TPWD	Wildlife Biologists	18	10	Assigned	TDEM Region 6
TxDOT	EMC	1	1	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is at [Level II \(Escalated Response Conditions\)](#). 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/response/state-operations-center#tab-3>

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