



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	26-0016 New World Screwworm Response
Date	June 18, 2026
Time	4:00 PM
Reporting Period	2:00 PM June 17, 2026, to 2:00 PM June 18, 2026
Report Number	12

TDEM Regions Affected	6, 7
Disaster Districts Activated	18, 24

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: The Texas Animal Health Commission is conducting animal surveillance/inspections with inspection/movement groups composed of multiple teams.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is conducting enhanced monitoring activities across multiple Wildlife Management Areas, including properties located within surveillance zones, using an extensive network of game cameras to detect potential signs of NWS infestations and support early response efforts.

Texas A&M AgriLife continues outreach and preparedness efforts with local officials, including Williamson and Jim Wells counties.

Texas Department of State Health Services staff are supporting preparedness efforts through tabletop exercises, webinars, consultations with local health departments, and facilitation of diagnostic testing and development of guidance materials. Recent clinician

education efforts have further strengthened awareness and readiness among healthcare providers statewide.

State agencies are working closely with local, state, and federal partners in the field and at the State Emergency Operations Center. State partners have contacted thousands of landowners and stakeholders and remain engaged and prepared to support response operations as efforts continue to prevent further spread of NWS.

On June 8, Governor 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, Gov. 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, Gov. 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 the 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, Gov. 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, and 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.

Region 6 (Includes DDs 17, 18, and 24)

Region 6 has contacted every County Judge in the region regarding the outbreak, status, and anticipated future briefings.

Region 6 is coordinating and communicating with local officials and state and federal partners. Currently, personnel are assisting with the needs of the unified command post located in Eagle Pass.

DD 18 – New Braunfels (Includes Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, McMullen, Medina, and Wilson Counties): Disaster District Emergency Operations Center (DDEOC) 18 is activated to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions).

DD 24 – Del Rio (Includes Dimmit, Edwards, La Salle, Kinney, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Zavala Counties): DDEOC 24 is activated to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions).

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM):

On June 8, the State Operations Center (SOC) activated to Level II (Escalated Response) in support of the New World Screwworm incident. The SOC directed interagency coordination to maintain unified communication, deploy necessary resources, and support response operations in affected regions across Texas.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):

NWS Statistics

as of 6/18/26 at 2:00 pm:

Total Confirmed Cases in Texas: 11

Counties affected	Total confirmed cases	Species affected
Zavala	3	cattle
La Salle	2	cattle
Gillespie	1	goats
Edwards	3	cattle, goats
Tom Green	1	cattle
Sutton	1	sheep
Total Confirmed	11	

NWS Certified Inspector Program Statistics

As of 6/13/26 at 2:00 PM

Attempted Final Exam	213
Passed Final Exam	205
Application in Process	20
Certified Inspectors	166

**TAHC expanded eligible applicants to include emergency management personnel. As the program rolls out, TAHC is evaluating expansion of the program to additional groups.*

Mission Information and Details

- Three (3) Animal inspection/movement groups with multiple teams conducting animal surveillance/inspection and outreach activities within the infested and

adjacent zones. They serve as the interface with landowners/producers regarding all prevention activities.

- Six (6) compliance and checkpoint strike teams are operating 16 roadside checkpoints. Roadside checkpoints have been established within the infested and adjacent zones to ensure NWS guideline compliance.
- Evaluating and processing movement certificate requests as quickly as possible for continuity of business.
- TAHC Regional Staff are working with local producers in the region to answer questions and assist with coordination of local jurisdictions and assets.
- NWS Identification Specialists, located at the NVSL Mobile Lab and USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Lab, are screening suspect larval and fly submissions from the infested and adjacent zones for rapid identification.
- Providing information, outreach, and education to industry, animal owners, stakeholders, and the public about NWS to encourage surveillance and proper reporting.
- The [TAHC New World screwworms webpage](#) is updated regularly to provide information and resources, as it becomes available.

The situation is evolving, and new information will be provided as investigations continue.

Executive Director Orders identifying Infested Zones remain 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.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD):

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 continue to 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, including animals harvested in State Parks and Wildlife Management Areas.
- Inspection of recently road-killed wildlife.
- Inspection of animals is handled as part of routine wildlife handling, whether that is by agencies, researchers, or other entities that encounter wildlife on a regular basis.
- Reporting from wildlife rehabbers, private practice vets, law enforcement, taxidermists, game processors, and the public.

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- TPWD Staff have contacted 4,202 TPWD cooperators and permit holders by phone to notify them of the NWS infestations and promote surveillance. 1,779 of those contacts have been to landowners and permit holders within Infested Zone and Surveillance Zone.
- All cooperators located inside Edwards, Gillespie, La Salle, Sutton, Tom Green, and Zavala County Infested and Surveillance Zones. (1,709) have received phone calls and updates on the NWS situation in their area.
- In addition to cooperators located in a zone, TPWD staff are also contacting all available TPWD cooperators that are currently not in a zone in South Texas and the Edwards Plateau by phone to notify them of the NWS situation and promote surveillance. As of this report, 2,423 TPWD cooperators on that list have been contacted.
- TPWD staff are monitoring 229 game cameras in 21 Wildlife Management Areas. TPWD's Kerr Wildlife Management Area is located within the Gillespie County Surveillance Zone and is monitoring 9 game cameras, and the Chaparral Wildlife Management Area is monitoring 7 game cameras for signs of NWS infestations on the property.

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. PIO continues to develop educational and outreach materials for publication and continues to participate in daily Joint Information Center activities.

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

- Conducted 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 the 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 TAHC and TPWD.
- 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. AgriLife Extension will provide maintenance and management of this course.
- 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 an NWS awareness training during the monthly meeting of the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) Agricultural Committee, as well as more in-depth training during the May 2026 EDEN webinar hosted by the EDEN professional development committee.

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- The NWS Preparedness and Response Education Course for Livestock Inspection is currently live and available on the [AgriLife Learn](#) educational platform. As of 10 a.m. on June 18: 2,467 individuals are enrolled in the course, with 503 completing the modules and earning completion certificates from TAHC.

- Williamson County held a New World Screwworm discussion that included the city Emergency Management Coordinators and a county epidemiologist. On June 17, a large multi-county educational event was held in Jim Wells County for the Coastal Bend region.

Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL):

The Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) has deployed one laboratory professional to the Texas Animal Health Commission's (TAHC) Pleasanton office to join the United States Department of Agriculture mobile detection unit deployed from USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL). The lab is now operational and accepting samples for identification. A second professional remains stationed in the State Operations Center (SOC) in Austin.

TVMDL is educating clients to contact TAHC for triage of a suspected fly or larvae instead of direct submission to TVMDL. However, TVMDL Client Services staff review every daily submission and flag any cases submitted for fly/larvae ID. Laboratorians who have passed the USDA proficiency test for NWS identification stand ready to review submissions and will immediately contact TAHC and USDA should a suspect case be identified. Suspect samples will be routed as directed by TAHC and USDA.

TVMDL staff are also contributing to the development of a livestock inspectors course, providing expertise on the requirement of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship for the administration of certain medications. Maintenance and management of this course will be provided by AgriLife Extension.

Staff participate in the TAHC Virtual Joint Information Center daily calls.

Laboratory personnel at all four agency locations are on standby to support ESF-11 partners as needed.

With support from TVMDL, the NVSL mobile lab reviewed 2 cases on June 13, 2026; none were received at any TVMDL location on June 13.

TVMDL veterinarians are assisting the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in producing screwworm collection kits. Talks are ongoing today to secure supplies for more kits.

With support from TVMDL, the NVSL mobile lab reviewed 8 cases on June 16, 2026; TVMDL reviewed one case from a private citizen on June 16 received at the College Station lab.

TVMDL is working to validate high-throughput testing, should the need arise.

As of June 18

- With support from TVMDL, the NVSL mobile lab reviewed 4 cases on June 17, 2026; TVMDL received one case from a private citizen on June 17 at the Canyon laboratory location.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):

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

DSHS is aware of the 11 confirmed cases of NWS in animals in Texas and continues working with state partners and lead agencies to ensure ESF-8 ongoing support.

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.

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Food Safety

- Texas Meat Safety Assurance continues to support the livestock industry, actively monitor potential cases of New World Screwworm at slaughter, provide training, and information to stakeholders. Currently:
 - Learning materials, in both Spanish and English, have been distributed to 153 slaughter establishments, and follow-up in-person engagements have been conducted at 136 establishments. Texas Meat Safety Assurance continues to support the livestock industry, actively monitor for potential cases of NWS at slaughter, and provide training and information to stakeholders.

Ongoing Coordination

- DSHS Public Health Region 1 (Panhandle)

- Internal engagement 06/17/2026:
 - Obtaining NWS materials for a tabletop exercise for regional staff.
- LHD engagement 06/17/2026:
 - PHR 1 Zoonosis Control contacted Amarillo Public Health. Amarillo Public Health presents NWS to local stakeholders - if a follow-up training is needed and will ask for PHR 1 Zoonosis contribution.
- Animal Control engagement 06/17/2026:
 - PHR 1 Zoonosis Control continues to share NWS resources as they become available. Each quarantine visit allows the program to visit with the ACOs and LRCAs about NWS. Visit includes discussion of materials provided, and the training provided. PHR 1 Zoonosis addresses their concerns, and answer questions they may have.
- DSHS Public Health Region 4/5N (North Texas/ Piney Woods area)
 - Region 4/5N Zoonosis Control is sending out invites to animal control officers and other local leaders for a 2-hour webinar with a tabletop component for Tuesday, June 23rd. This will be a hybrid face-to-face and online.
 - The region has fielded a few concerned citizen phone calls on potential NWS fly or larvae sightings. Descriptions of larvae and flies were able to rule out NWS in each of those calls.
- DSHS Public Health Region 8 (San Antonio and Uvalde area)
 - The Zoonosis Control team facilitated submission of samples to the state lab from a Victoria County patient for NWS to rule out. Results are expected today (5/18/2026), currently low suspicion.
 - Provided consultation services to Victoria City County Public Health Department on NWS.
 - Preparedness and Response staff assisted Comal and Guadalupe Counties in setting up a joint NWS meeting. Invited speakers include DSHS R8, TAHC, and TPWD. Invited guests include elected officials, animal control, public health, law enforcement, and local health authority from both counties. Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2026.
 - PHR8 is currently working on an NWS FAQ document for internal use.
- The webinar, 'What Physicians and Other Clinicians Need to Know About New World Screwworm' was held today, Thursday, June 18, 12:00 P.M. to 1:30 P.M., Central Time.
- A DSHS Public Information Officers continues to participate in Joint Information Center activities at the State Operations Center.

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA):

The Texas Department of Agriculture continues to conduct surveillance, gather intelligence, collect evidence, and monitor any signs of the New World Screwworm fly in relevant portions of the state. Traps specific for the New World Screwworm have been

deployed and are continually monitored, with all suspect samples sent to our state and federal partners for identification of suspect fly species.

As of June 17

TDA Inspectors, field staff, and pertinent regional employees are actively pursuing accreditation under the Texas Animal Health Commission and Texas AgriLife NWS Certified Inspector Program. Certified TDA staff can conduct inspections and issue NWS Treatment/Movement Certificates for animals leaving an NWS-infested zone.

The deployment route encompassed placing traps every 3 mile along the US/Mexico Border from Webb County all the way to the Val Verde County, approximately 105 miles of roadway and rural terrain, focusing on areas identified as priority surveillance zones due to livestock movement, wildlife activity, transportation corridors, and proximity to the international border region.

This enhanced surveillance and trapping plan now has extended from the Boca-Chica and Starbase area in Cameron County, all along the Texas-Mexico border corridor, to Val Verde County.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):

TCEQ continues to closely monitor the New World Screwworm response and will coordinate with state and federal partners to provide technical assistance and guidance on carcass disposal.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):

The TxDOT liaison is currently staffing the SOC, where TxDOT Emergency Management personnel continue to monitor the situation and support lead state agency partners. TxDOT continues to coordinate with TAHC regarding the increase and extended specialized fly trap locations along state-maintained Right-of-Ways (ROW) in impacted areas. Additionally, online identification and reporting information has been distributed to all TxDOT offices statewide.

TxDOT continues to coordinate with TAHC regarding compliance checkpoint locations along state-maintained roadways.

Texas Military Department (TMD):

Texas Military Department (TMD) is supporting state agency partners in response with a SOC support team.

Texas Cyber Command (TXCC):

TXCC is monitoring the situation and stands ready to support the state's response efforts. TXCC is monitoring the situation using cybersecurity tooling and threat intelligence feeds. No cyber threats related to this event have been identified.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS):

In support of the New World Screwworm Response affecting portions of Texas, the Texas Department of Public Safety personnel are assisting the Texas Animal Health Commission by providing a Texas Highway Patrol Trooper to serve as a liaison at the Incident Command Post in Eagle Pass. Additionally, area Troopers are conducting patrol operations in and around the affected areas of Edwards, Gillespie, La Salle, and Zavala Counties and remain available to respond to requests for assistance if needed at designated TAHC checkpoints. DPS has assisted TAHC with transportation of test samples as needed.

Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team (VET):

VET operational area is focused on the following counties: Gillespie, Mason, Kimble, Sutton counties, with options for Edwards or Uvalde counties.

Summary animal type statistics of VET activity from [6/14 at noon to 6/18 at noon](#) is in the chart below:

Species	Number in herd	Number inspected/treated
Cattle	1,841	1,399
Goats	2,359	2,154
Sheep	2,117	2,089
Pigs	4	4
Horses	71	50
Cats & Dogs	33	8
Exotics	23	21
Poultry	120	50

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- There has been no change in the counties where teams have worked to date: Gillespie, Kerr, Uvalde, Kimble, Sutton, and Mason. VET received another maggot sample from a local who got it off one of their barn cats that was found deceased (with evidence of an animal attack) – the maggots were sent to the Kerrville lab for identification, and the cat was disposed of properly.
- All 5 VET Strike Teams continue to respond to call requests from the call log to provide inspections, treat wounds or collect samples from local ranchers – the calls are coming typically in the mornings, with less afternoon activity.
- VET continues to work out of their base at the Gillespie County AgriLife Extension office which has been a great working location and has helped strengthen our already existing relationship with our county partners (OEM in Gillespie, AgriLife Extension service, AgriLife DAR, and other county officials).
- VET attended the Gillespie County meeting on NWS held at the fairgrounds and sponsored by the Texas Farm Bureau and Texas and SW Cattle Raisers – a meeting attended by over 1000 local ranchers and citizens.
- The total number of animal inspections since Sunday, June 14 at 12n is 5,775.

As of June 17

- Completed inspections on 200 goats and a few sheep at the Uvalde County sale barn.
- VET ST worked with TAHC inspector at the Gillespie County sale barn on Tuesday to assist with inspections of over 4000 sheep/goats and are back there on Wednesday for the cattle sale which will conclude later in the day on 6/17.
- Strike Teams visited multiple small ranches (4 by one strike team, 1-2 each for the others) in Gillespie and Kerr Counties – this also included exotic animal ranches and facilities, a process which continues today.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TDEM	ICP Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Eagle Pass
TDEM	SOC Support	13	0	Activated	SOC
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	Administration	3	3	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	SMEs	16	16	Activated	Statewide
AgriLife	PIO	1	1	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	DAR Specialists/ Area Chiefs	5	5	Assigned	DD 18 & 24/ South Region AC
AgriLife	DAR Specialists/ Area Chiefs	26	18	Activated	Statewide
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	6	6	Assigned	Zavala, LaSalle, Gillespie, Edwards Counties
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	250+	0	Activated	Statewide
DPS	THP Corporal	1	1	Assigned	Eagle Pass
DPS	THP Chief's Office SOC Support	1	1	Assigned	Austin
DPS	THP Corporal	1	1	Assigned	Pleasanton
DSHS	SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	SOC
DSHS	PIO	1	0	Assigned	SOC
TAHC	Administration	1	0	Assigned	SOC
TAHC	IMT	5	0	Assigned	Jourdanton
TAHC	Response Staff	44	62	Assigned	Various Infested Zones
TAHC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TDA	SOC Liaison	2	1	Assigned	Austin
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Cameron County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Hidalgo County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Starr County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Zapata County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Webb County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Maverick County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Harris County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Galveston County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Val Verde County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Kinney County
Texas A&M VET	Type 3 VET	15	13	Assigned	Fredericksburg/ Gillespie County
TMD	SOC Support MRP	9	0	Assigned	Austin
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	48	8	Assigned	TDEM Region 6
TXCC	SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	SOC
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TVMDL	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TVMDL	TVMDL Administration	3	3	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Sample Review / Processing	7	7	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Parasite ID SMEs	1	1	Activated	Pleasanton/ Jourdanton
TVMDL	Parasite ID SMEs	3	3	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Veterinary Diagnostics	3	3	Activated	College Station / Canyon
TVMDL	High Throughput Testing	3	3	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Communications	1	1	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Quality Assurance	2	2	Activated	College Station

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is currently operating 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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