



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	26-0016 New World Screwworm Response
Date	July 4, 2026
Time	4:00 PM
Reporting Period	2:00 PM July 3, 2026, to 2:00 PM July 4, 2026
Report Number	28

TDEM Regions Affected	5, 6, 7
Disaster Districts Activated	18, 24

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: The Texas Disaster Portal continues to be updated regularly with the latest guidance, resources, and information from state agencies engaged in the response to New World Screwworm. The one-stop-shop portal, located on the Texas Division of Emergency Management website, can be accessed online at screwworm.texas.gov.

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) continues to respond to the NWS situation through expanded animal inspections, movement certification, and roadside inspection compliance. Following the detection of additional cases in sheep, an infested area has been expanded through a revised Executive Director Order to include additional portions of affected counties. Regional staff are coordinating closely with local producers and jurisdictions.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) continues to expand its NWS response through actively investigating wildlife and suspected cases, while providing statewide training to personnel. The agency has also increased surveillance capacity by deploying traps and other field equipment and is partnering with USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to enhance monitoring efforts at selected state park properties.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension NWS Preparedness and Response Education Course for Livestock Inspection remains available through the AgriLife Learn platform. The course continues to support preparedness efforts by providing training on surveillance, reporting, and response, with many participants successfully completing the program and earning certificates of completion.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) continues coordinating with partners through the Center for Health Emergency Preparedness and Response to support the NWS response. A department veterinarian is scheduled to deploy to the Incident Command Post to assist with response operations. Community Health Workers have planned training that will focus on recognizing NWS, identifying at risk populations, and communicating prevention messages to local communities.

On June 19, Governor Greg Abbott announced the launch of an enhanced website that offers comprehensive information for Texans related to the New World Screwworm (NWS). Located in TDEM's Disaster Portal, Texans can visit screwworm.texas.gov to access a "one-stop shop" of information and resources from state agency partners engaged in NWS response.

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 continues directing 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 7/04/26 at 2:00 pm:

Total Confirmed Cases in Texas: 30

Counties affected	Total positive cases	Species affected
Edwards	4	cattle, goats
Crockett	7	sheep, cattle
Terrell	4	cattle, goats
Medina	1	cattle
Jim Hogg	1	cattle
Uvalde	1	cattle
Counties affected	Total inactive cases	Species affected
Zavala	3	cattle
Sutton	1	sheep
La Salle	2	cattle
Gillespie	1	goats
Pecos	1	canine
Crockett	1	sheep
Edwards	2	cattle, goats
Tom Green	1	cattle

NWS Certified Inspector Program Statistics

As of 7/04/26 at 2:00 PM

Application in Process	24
Certified Inspectors	555

**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

- To date, TAHC has inspected 11,771 animals in the infested zones, and 291 certificates have been issued for movement out of the infested zones.
- Two (2) groups of TAHC inspectors have been mobilized to conduct animal inspection/movement/outreach within the identified infested and adjacent zones.

These groups will support movement inspections and issue movement certificates as quickly as possible for continuity of business, as they are requested and scheduled by the ICP.

- On July 3, a total of 13 inspections were completed for movement out of the infested zones.
- Four (4) compliance and checkpoint strike teams are operating roadside checkpoints. Roadside checkpoints have been established within the infested and adjacent zones to ensure NWS guideline compliance.
 - On July 3, with the assistance of TAMFS, a total of 54 stops were completed; 30 stops provided for education/outreach, and 24 verified NWS guideline compliance.
- Due to the additional cases found in sheep on June 30, a third modified Executive Director Order was issued on July 3, designating parts of Crockett, Schleicher, Sutton, and Val Verde Counties as Infested Zone 07.C.
- TAHC Regional Staff are working with local producers in the region to answer questions and assist with the 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. One (1) TAHC entomologist has been assigned to the mobile laboratory to assist.
- 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.

July 4

- TPWD Staff have contacted [6,416](#) TPWD cooperators and permit holders by phone to notify them of the NWS infestations and promote surveillance. [2,485](#) of these contacts have been to landowners and permit holders within infested zones and surveillance zones.
- [Approximately 92% of all](#) cooperators located inside Zavala, La Salle, Gillespie, Medina, Edwards, Tom Green, Crockett, Terrell, Jim Hogg, and Sutton counties infested zones and surveillance zones ([2,384](#)) have received phone calls and updates on the NWS situation in their area.
- TPWD staff have investigated [3,415](#) animals statewide and investigated 43 suspect cases.
- TPWD Wildlife Division has provided [11](#) training courses for [1,070](#) staff in Wildlife, Law Enforcement, and State Parks on NWS protocols including collecting samples of suspected NWS infestation and mitigating larvae in carcasses. Additional training is planned for essential staff statewide.
- TPWD staff have secured an accumulated total of [75](#) NWS traps and 22 Ground Release Chamber.
- [The State Parks Division will begin collaborating with the USDA APHIS to conduct drone-based monitoring.](#)
- [The State Parks Division will work with USDA APHIS to begin fly netting at Garner and Choke Canyon state parks. USDA APHIS placed fly net traps in the Choke Canyon State Park.](#)

As of July 3

- Since NWS was detected in Texas, TPWD staff have presented on NWS at 27 workshops, totaling approximately 3,633 attendees.
- TPWD staff have worked with cooperating landowners to provide access for USDA – Drone Surveillance to properties within NWS infested zones. To date, staff have facilitated access to 50 properties totaling approximately 455,000 acres and two TPWD managed properties totaling approximately 20,000 acres. USDA-WS is conducting drone surveys on five of the provided cooperating landowner properties.
- TPWD Wildlife Division has nine staff members that have completed the AgriLife NWS training to become certified inspectors through TAHC.
- All deer breeder permit holders located inside infested zones and surveillance zones (85) have been contacted by phone.

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 available on the AgriLife Learn educational platform. As of Noon today, 4,710 individuals are enrolled in the course, with 2,018 having completed the modules and earning completion certificates.

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.

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.

TVMDL veterinarians are assisting the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in producing screwworm collection kits.

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

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- With support from TVMDL, the NVSL mobile lab reviewed 3 cases on July 3, 2026; TVMDL received 0 cases on July 3, 2026.
- TVMDL is continuing to work to identify agency veterinarians who can be field deployed on a rotational basis to support the efforts of TAHC.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):

DSHS State Medical Operations Center (SMOC) is at Increased Readiness in support of this incident. DSHS continues working with state partners and lead agencies to ensure ESF-8's ongoing support.

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.

July 4

Ongoing Coordination:

- Center for Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (CHEPR)
 - The first deployment of a DSHS Veterinarian is expected on July 14, and is anticipated to be assigned to the Incident Command Post.

Planned future events:

- NWS Training for Community Health Workers (CHW) is scheduled for July 6, hosted by the DSHS PHR 11 and will go over recognizing NWS, who may be at risk, and sharing prevention messages with the local communities.

DSHS staff across regional offices continue reaching out to partners to ensure animal control officers, veterinarians, local health departments, county judges, tribal nations, and other regional partners have the latest guidance and resources for identification, sampling, and reporting NWS.

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.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):

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

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):

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

Texas Military Department (TMD):

The Texas Military Department (TMD) is supporting state agency partners in response with a SOC support team. TMD has activated an Aerial Dispersal Team in South Texas to assist partners with sterile fly dispersal.

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):

As DPS continues to support NWS response, the updated checkpoints for Gillespie, Tom Green, and Sutton Counties have been distributed to DPS field personnel. THP personnel continue to patrol the affected areas identified by TAHC in Zavala, La Salle, Edwards, Crockett, Terrell, Medina, and Jim Hogg Counties. THP is available to respond to requests for assistance if needed.

Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team (VET):

VET has returned from an assigned status in the field to an available status from home stations and remains available on an as-needed basis.

VET focused on 8 different categories of animals, totaling 5,778 animal inspections.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS):

TAMFS is providing agency personnel to assist TAHC as checkpoint investigators in the screwworm-infected zones.

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	8	8	Assigned	DD 8, 10, 18, 19 & 24/ South and West Region AC
AgriLife	DAR Specialists/ Area Chiefs	22	15	Activated	Statewide
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	10	10	Assigned	Zavala, LaSalle, Gillespie, Edwards, Tom Green, Sutton, Terrell, Medina, and Crockett Counties
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	250+	0	Activated	Statewide
DPS	THP Trooper/Corporal	1	1	Assigned	Pleasanton Incident Command Post
DSHS	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC
DSHS	PIO	1	0	Assigned	SOC
DSHS	Veterinarian	1	0	Activated	Austin
DSHS	Veterinarians/Entom ologists	20	0	Assigned	Austin/Public Health Regions

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
DSHS	Regional Staff	66	0	Assigned	All Public Health Regions
DSHS	Meat Safety Assurance	118	0	Assigned	Statewide
TAHC	Administration	1	0	Assigned	Remote
TAHC	IMT	7	0	Assigned	Jourdanton
TAHC	Response Staff	22	62	Assigned	Various Infested Zones/ Remote
TAHC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Available	SOC
TAHC	PIO	1	0	Available	SOC
TAMFS	Field Operations	10	10	Assigned	Statewide
TDA	SOC Liaison	2	1	Available	Austin
TDA	JIC PIO	1	0	Available	SOC
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	12	Available	Fredericksburg/ Gillespie County
TMD	SOC Support MRP	9	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Aerial Dispersal	10	0	Assigned	Edinburg

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
	Team				
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	SOC
TPWD	JIC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	JIC Austin
TPWD	Game Wardens/ State Park Police	500	500	Available	Statewide
TPWD	Game Wardens	3	3	Assigned	TDEM Region 6/ Zavala Co.
TPWD	Wildlife Biologists	14	7	Assigned	TDEM Region 6
TPWD	State Parks Staff	2	0	Assigned	Statewide
TXCC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TVMDL	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin
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/ Jourdan
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

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TVMDL	Quality Assurance	2	2	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Field Veterinarian	1	1	Activated	TBD

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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