



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	26-0016 New World Screwworm Response
Date	July 12, 2026
Time	4:00 PM
Reporting Period	2:00 PM July 11, 2026, to 2:00 PM July 12 2026
Report Number	36

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 support the state's NWS response by implementing animal movement controls, inspection requirements, and treatment protocols to limit further spread. Ongoing efforts focus on surveillance, containment, regulatory enforcement, and close collaboration with federal, state, and local partners to protect animal health and support eradication efforts.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is coordinating a comprehensive wildlife surveillance effort to support prevention, detection, and control, of NWS. Working closely with landowners and partner organizations, the agency is leveraging field observations, wildlife inspections, and reporting networks to monitor potential impacts on native wildlife. These efforts strengthen early detection capabilities and enhance coordination to protect Texas' natural resources and wildlife populations.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service continues to play a central role in New World screwworm preparedness and response through statewide education, outreach, training, public information, and interagency coordination. The agency is supporting surveillance, response planning, and stakeholder awareness through extensive educational programming, specialized training resources, and expert guidance.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) remains actively engaged in supporting the statewide NWS response through coordination with partner agencies, public health readiness, food safety oversight, and strategic communications.

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 7/12/26 at 2:00 pm:

Total Confirmed Cases in Texas: 34

Counties affected	Total positive cases	Species affected
Edwards	3	cattle, goats
Crockett	10	goats, sheep, cattle
Terrell	4	cattle, goats
Medina	1	cattle
Jim Hogg	1	cattle
Uvalde	1	Cattle
Brewster	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	3	cattle, goats
Tom Green	1	cattle

NWS Certified Inspector Program Statistics

As of 7/12/26 at 2:00 PM

Application in Process	12
Certified Inspectors	653

**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 14,361 animals in the infested zones, and 494 certificates have been issued for movement out of the infested zones.

- Six (6) 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 11, a total of 9 inspections were completed on 27 animals moving out of the infested zones.
- Fifteen (15) 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 11, with the assistance of TAMFS, a total of 48 stops were completed; 19 stops were provided for education/outreach, and 29 verified NWS guideline compliance.
- 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.

As of July 12

- TPWD staff have investigated [4,134](#) animals statewide and investigated 44 suspect cases.
- TPWD staff are monitoring 83 game cameras on 15 state parks. San Angelo State Park, located in the Tom Green infected zone, is monitoring four game cameras; three game cameras are being monitored at the Devils Sink Hole, located in the Edwards surveillance zone.
- To date, TPWD Staff have contacted 5,906 TPWD cooperators and permit holders by phone to notify them of the NWS infestations and promote surveillance.
 - o [2,449](#) of these contacts have been to landowners and permit holders within infested zones and surveillance zones.
 - o [3,419](#) TPWD cooperators have been contacted.
- Since NWS was detected in Texas, TPWD staff have presented on NWS at [35](#) workshops, totaling approximately [4,307](#) attendees.
- [TPWD Wildlife Division currently has 12 staff that have completed the AgriLife NWS training required to become a certified inspector with TAHC.](#)
- TPWD staff are monitoring [352](#) game cameras on 36 Wildlife Management Area's. TPWD's Kerr Wildlife Management area, located within the Gillespie surveillance zone, is monitoring 10 game cameras; the Chaparral Wildlife Management Area, partially located in the La Salle surveillance zone is monitoring 7 game cameras for NWS infestations; and the Elephant Wildlife Management Area located in Brewster County is monitoring 14 cameras.

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.

As of July 12

- [The New World Screwworm Preparedness and Response Education Course for Livestock Inspection](#) remains available on AgriLife Learn platform. As of 8:30 am today, 5,142 individuals were enrolled, and 2,315 had completed the modules

and earned 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.

As of July 12

- With support from TVMDL, the NVSL mobile lab reviewed 0 submissions on July 11, 2026; TVMDL received 0 submissions on July 11, 2026.

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.

Ongoing Coordination

- Center for Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (CHEPR)
 - DSHS will be sending a veterinarian to Jourdanton on July 12.

Planned future events include:

- On July 17, a comprehensive 4-hour NWS training for Animal Control Officers and Sanitarians will be held at the Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department in Edinburg. This course will cover companion animal care, wildlife impacts, public health considerations, and Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) dispersal operations.
- NWS Workshop July 15, 2026 to be hosted by Aransas County Animal Care Services. The District Regional Director (DRD), Zoonosis Manager, and Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) personnel will be in attendance to support and build their NWS plans.

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):

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) continues to support the SOC by participating in daily coordination efforts, sharing situational updates and educational information with districts statewide, and coordinating with TAHC on compliance checkpoint locations as the New World Screwworm response expands into additional counties.

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 Medina Counties have been distributed to DPS field personnel. THP personnel continue to patrol the affected areas identified by TAHC in Zavala, La Salle, Edwards, Gillespie, Tom Green, Sutton, 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):

On June 18, VET returned from an assigned status in the field to an available status from home stations and remains available on an as-needed basis.

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	Austin
AgriLife	DAR Specialists/ Area Chiefs	18	10	Assigned	Statewide
AgriLife	DAR Livestock Inspection Teams	12	12	Assigned	San Angelo, Fredericksburg, Mason, Uvalde, Pearsall, Hondo, Ozona, Hebbronville
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	10	10	Assigned	Zavala, LaSalle, Gillespie, Edwards, Tom Green, Sutton, Terrell, Medina, Crockett, Jim Hogg Counties
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	250+	0	Activated	Statewide
DPS	THP Trooper/Corporal	1	1	Assigned	Pleasanton ICP
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	Infested Zones
TAHC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC
TAHC	TAHC PIO	1	0	Assigned	JIC
TAMFS	Field Operations	10	10	Assigned	Statewide
TDA	SOC Liaison	2	1	Assigned	Austin
TDA	JIC PIO	1	0	Assigned	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	8	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Aerial Dispersal Team	10	0	Assigned	Edinburg

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
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	7	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	6	6	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

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TVMDL	Field Veterinarian	1	1	Activated	Jourdanton/ICP

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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