



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	26-0016 New World Screwworm Response
Date	July 31, 2026
Time	4:00 PM
Reporting Period	2:00 PM July 30, 2026, to 2:00 PM July 31, 2026
Report Number	55

TDEM Regions Affected	5, 6, 7
Disaster Districts Activated	N/A

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 intensive NWS response operations through inspections, movement certification, roadside checkpoints, livestock market surveillance, laboratory identification, producer support, and public outreach. The agency regularly updates guidance and resources while coordinating with partners to limit disease spread. Following a new detection in Brewster County, portions of Brewster and Presidio Counties have been designated as a new infested zone.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) continues statewide NWS surveillance through wildlife investigations, outreach to landowners and permit holders, staff training, and support for USDA drone surveillance. The agency is expanding outreach beyond designated zones to strengthen early detection, facilitating access to private lands for surveillance, and providing regular updates to wildlife rehabilitation partners.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has expanded statewide NWS preparedness through education, training, outreach, resource development, and collaboration with government and industry partners. The agency continues to provide detection and

response tools, distribute collection kits, increase public awareness, and offer online training to strengthen statewide surveillance and response capabilities.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) continues to support the NWS response through coordinated personnel deployments, planned staff rotations, specialized veterinary support, and training to strengthen epidemiological investigations and accurate identification of NWS and other larval specimens.

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.

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.

TDEM Regional staff continue to remain engaged with local officials across impacted areas as well as areas that have not experienced cases.

Coordination between local, state, federal, industry, and private-sector partners remains ongoing.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):

NWS Statistics

as of [7/31/26](#) at 2:00 pm:

Total Confirmed Cases in Texas: [42](#)

Counties affected	Total positive cases	Species affected
Crockett	1	goats, sheep, cattle
Brewster	2	cattle
Sutton	2	canine, goat
Pecos	2	sheep
Starr	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	10	sheep, cattle
Edwards	6	cattle, goats, sheep
Tom Green	1	cattle
Terrell	4	cattle, goats
Medina	1	cattle
Jim Hogg	1	cattle
Schleicher	1	sheep
Uvalde	1	cattle
Brewster	1	cattle

NWS Certified Inspector Program Statistics

As of 7/31/26 at 2:00 PM

Application in Process	0
Certified Inspectors	770

**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 28,189 animals in the infested zones, and 1,022 certificates have been issued for movement out of the infested zones.
- TAHC inspectors have been mobilized to conduct animal inspection/movement/outreach within the identified infested and adjacent zones. These groups will conduct inspections of livestock to identify myiasis, assist producers with topical/systemic treatments, and collect larval samples for official laboratory identification. Additionally, they will perform pre-movement inspections, ensure proper treatment compliance, and issue official NWS movement certificates as quickly as possible.
 - On July 30, a total of 22 inspections were completed on 450 animals moving out of the infested zones.
- TAHC 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 30, a total of 13 stops were completed; 7 stops were provided for education/outreach, and 6 verified NWS guideline compliance.

- Livestock Market inspections are being conducted to screen livestock for signs of myiasis and verify that all animals entering a market from an Infested Zone possess a valid NWS movement certificate. Animals moving to slaughter are monitored to ensure they enter proper slaughter channels, and any changes to a non-slaughter status are confirmed to receive immediate treatment at the market.
- 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 screwworm webpage](#) is updated regularly to provide information and resources, as it becomes available.

On July 31, NWS was detected on a calf in Brewster County. Due to this detection, areas of Brewster and Presidio Counties are designated as Infested Zone 18.

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 regularly.
- Reporting from wildlife rehabbers, private practice vets, law enforcement, taxidermists, game processors, and the public.

July 31

- TPWD staff have investigated 5,599 animals statewide and investigated 52 suspect cases.
- To date, TPWD staff have contacted 7,226 TPWD cooperators and permit holders to notify them of the NWS situation and promote surveillance; 2,819 of those contacts have been to landowners and permit holders within IZs or SZs.
- 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, Edwards Plateau, and Trans Pecos counties. As of this report, 4,407 TPWD cooperators on that list have been contacted.
- TPWD Wildlife Division currently has 61 staff who have completed the AgriLife NWS training.
- TPWD staff have worked with cooperating landowners to provide access for USDA-Drone Surveillance to properties within the NWS infested zones. As of July 31, staff helped facilitate access to 239 properties, totaling 2,442,128 acres.
- An updated NWS eBlast was last sent to 1,037 rehabilitation recipients on July 29, 2026.

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.

- Developed a County Extension NWS Educational Toolkit, 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.
- 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.
- The Ag Alert pest and disease alert system has seen a 600% increase in subscribers since the first detection of NWS on June 3. As of July 13, there were 1,698 subscribers. NWS cases are being posted on the site, along with other animal and plant pest and disease cases.
- As of July 13, 2026, the following online printable resources are now available through the AgriLife Extension New World screwworm hub:
 1. The AgriLife Extension pocket guide is available as a printable resource on the AgriLife website. The pocket guide provides basic information about New World screwworm, available treatment options, and general resources for Texans.
 2. A Field Guide for Beef Cattle Producers provides early detection information, reporting, sample collection, submission, and treatment information. This resource is also available on the AgriLife Extension NWS hub.

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- The New World Screwworm Preparedness and Response Education Course for Livestock Inspection remains available on the AgriLife Learn website. As of 8:30 am July 31, 6,006 individuals had enrolled, with 2,886 completing 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 1 submission on July 30, 2026. TVMDL received 1 submission from USDA/TDA traps on July 30, 2026. In total, 1 submission was received by TVMDL College Station on July 30, 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.

July 31 – Ongoing Coordination

- Center for Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (CHEPR)
 - On Sunday, August 2nd, DSHS is scheduled to rotate the 5 deployed inspectors, 1 deployed veterinarian, and deploy 2 additional veterinarians.
- Public Health Region 7 (Central Texas Region)
 - Deployed personnel reviewed NWS epidemiological steps for case investigations and worked with a parasitologist to identify NWS and other larval specimens.

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 continues to support the State Operations Center through daily coordination and situational awareness activities. The department is coordinating with TAHC on compliance checkpoint locations as the New World Screwworm response expands, providing affected districts with operational updates. TxDOT Emergency Management personnel also distribute daily response information and educational materials statewide to maintain awareness and support coordinated operations.

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 La Salle, Edwards, Gillespie, Tom Green, Crockett, Medina, Jim Hogg, Brewster, and [Starr](#) Counties have been distributed to DPS field personnel. THP personnel continue to patrol the affected areas identified by TAHC. THP is available to respond to assistance requests.

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 and PIO support at the State Operations Center and Command Post.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
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	18	Assigned	Statewide
AgriLife	DAR Livestock Inspection Teams	12	12	Assigned	San Angelo, Fredericksburg, Mason, Uvalde, Pearsall, Hondo, Ozona, Hebbronville
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	15	15	Assigned	Zavala, LaSalle, Gillespie, Edwards, Tom Green, Sutton, Terrell, Medina, Crockett, Jim Hogg, Pecos, Uvalde, Brewster, Starr, Schleicher Counties
AgriLife	County Extension Agents	250+	0	Activated	Statewide
DPS	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
DPS	THP Trooper/Corporal	1	1	Assigned	Pleasanton
DSHS	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC
DSHS	PIO	1	0	Assigned	SOC
DSHS	Veterinarians/Entomologists	20	0	Assigned	Austin/Public Health Regions
DSHS	Veterinarian	1	0	Assigned	Atascosa County (Jourdanton)
DSHS	Animal Health Inspector	2	0	Activated	Tom Green Co
DSHS	Animal Health Inspector	1	0	Activated	Brewster Co
DSHS	Animal Health Inspector	2	0	Activated	Crockett Co
DSHS	Regional Staff	66	0	Assigned	All Public Health Regions
DSHS	Meat Safety Assurance	118	0	Assigned	Statewide
TAHC	Administration	2	0	Assigned	Remote
TAHC	IMT	2	0	Assigned	Jourdanton
TAHC	IMT	2	0	Assigned	SOC
TAHC	IMT	4	0	Assigned	Remote
TAHC	Response Staff	27	48	Assigned	Infested Zones/Remote
TAHC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC
TAMFS	Field Operations	5	5	Assigned	Statewide
TDA	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TDA	JIC PIO	1	0	Assigned	SOC
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Cameron County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Zapata County
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Harris County

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TDA	Inspector	1	1	Assigned	Galveston County
TDA	Fly Traps	1	1	Assigned	Region 5
TDA	Fly Traps	2	2	Assigned	Region 6
TDA	Fly Traps	1	1	Assigned	Region 7
Texas A&M VET	Type 3 VET	15	12	Available	Fredericksburg/ Gillespie County
TMD	SOC Support MRP	12	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Aerial Dispersal Team	10	0	Assigned	Edinburg
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	SOC
TPWD	JIC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Remote
TPWD	Game Wardens/ State Park Police	500	500	Available	Statewide
TPWD	Game Wardens	3	3	Assigned	TDEM Region 6/ Zavala Co.
TPWD	Wildlife Biologist	5	1	Assigned	Region 6
TPWD	Wildlife Biologist	5	1	Assigned	Region 7
TPWD	State Parks Staff	2	0	Assigned	Region 6
TXCC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TVMDL	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin
TVMDL	Administration	3	0	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Sample Review / Processing	7	0	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Parasite ID SMEs	1	1	Activated	Atascosa Co.

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TVMDL	Parasite ID SMEs	6	0	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Veterinary Diagnostics	3	0	Activated	College Station / Canyon
TVMDL	High Throughput Testing	3	0	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Communications	1	0	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Quality Assurance	2	0	Activated	College Station
TVMDL	Field Veterinarian	1	1	Activated	Jourdanton

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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