



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	26-0001 Wildfire Season 2026
Date	August 23, 2026
Time	10:00 AM
Operational Period	8:00 AM August 22, 2026, to 8:00 AM August 23, 2026
Report Number	166

TDEM Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
DDs Active	3, 7

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On August 4, Governor Greg Abbott announced that he directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to activate additional state wildfire response resources in anticipation of increased fire weather conditions in areas of the Texas Panhandle.

On August 3, Governor Greg Abbott amended and renewed the disaster proclamation related to fire weather.

According to the Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS), August is typically the peak month for wildfires due to hot, dry conditions. Across large regions of Texas, wildfire potential is expected to increase due to dry vegetation, with a heightened concern over the next several days in the Panhandle and North Texas areas.

On July 4, Governor Greg Abbott amended and renewed the disaster proclamation related to fire weather.

On June 7, Governor Abbott amended and renewed the disaster proclamation related to fire weather.

On May 21, Gov. Abbott announced that he directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to request officials from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) join state and local partners in conducting preliminary damage assessments in

Panhandle communities affected by recent wildfire activity. These assessments will help determine if the state meets the thresholds for additional federal disaster assistance.

On May 19, Gov. Abbott announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved a request from the State of Texas for a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) for the Stinky Fire in Potter County, which has threatened homes, damaged property, impacted infrastructure, and prompted local evacuations in the Texas Panhandle.

On May 16, Gov. Abbott announced that FEMA has approved a request from the State of Texas for an FMAG for the Hunggate Fire in Randall County, which has threatened and damaged homes and infrastructure in the Texas Panhandle and forced local evacuations.

On May 8, Gov. Abbott issued a disaster proclamation related to fire weather conditions that began on August 10, 2025, as amended and renewed in subsequent proclamations, certifying that increased fire weather conditions pose an imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property.

On March 18, Gov. Abbott announced that FEMA has approved a request from the State of Texas for an FMAG for the Corner Pocket Fire in Donley County, which threatened and damaged homes and infrastructure in the Texas Panhandle and forced local evacuations.

On February 19, Gov. Abbott announced that FEMA has approved a request from the State of Texas for an FMAG for the 8 Ball Fire that started in Armstrong County and entered Donley County, which has threatened homes and infrastructure in the Panhandle area and has prompted local evacuations.

On February 17, Gov. Abbott directed TDEM to increase the readiness level of the Texas State Emergency Operations Center (SOC) to Level II (Escalated Response) ahead of critical wildfire danger anticipated across portions of the western half of Texas.

On February 15, Gov. Abbott announced that he directed TDEM to activate additional state wildfire response resources in anticipation of elevated-to-critical fire weather conditions in large areas of South, West, and Northwest Texas.

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 1 (Includes Disaster District (DD) 1, 2, and 7)

DD 1 – Amarillo (Includes Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth,

Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, and Wheeler Counties)

DD 2 – Lubbock (Includes Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry, and Yoakum Counties)

Motley County: Moore has burned 100 acres and is 70 percent contained.

Motley County: Rustler has burned 1300 acres and is 25 percent contained.

DD 7 – Abilene (Includes Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, and Taylor Counties): As of August 21, DDEOC 7 maintains Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) status in support of the fire weather threat.

Region 2 (Includes DDs 3, 4, and 22)

TDEM Region 2 staff are actively meeting and working with TAMFS and Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) partners to enhance response and recovery processes within the region.

DD 3 – Wichita Falls (Includes Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Montague, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Young Counties): DDEOC 3 maintains Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions).

Montague County: Starkey burned 30 acres and is contained.

DD 4 – Dallas/Ft. Worth (Includes Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise Counties)

Parker County: Cuttin has burned 2 acres and is 95 percent contained.

Region 3 (Includes DDs 5, 6, 14, and 15)

Since August 9, Region 3 has been experiencing a gradual increase in fire behavior, with primarily low-moderate behavior presenting daily and sporadically across all four Districts. As of August 20, various additional resource were staged in Region 3 from the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS), Texas Military Department (TMD), and Texas Department of State Health Service (DSHS).

DD 5 – Mt. Pleasant (Includes Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus Counties)

DD 6 – Tyler (Includes Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood Counties)

Camp County: Camp 7470 burned one acre and is contained.

Cherokee County: Cherokee 7451 burned one acres and is contained.

Gregg County: Gregg 7462 burned 21 acres and is contained.

Panola County: Panola burned 2.20 acres and is contained.

Rusk County: Dead Oak has burned 37 acres and is 95 percent contained.

Rusk County: Rusk 7421 burned 3 acres and is contained.

DD 14 – Lufkin (Includes Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, and Tyler Counties)

Nacogdoches County: Nacogdoches 7456 burned 0.25 acres and is contained.

Shelby County: Shelby 7446 burned four acres and is contained.

Region 8 (Includes DDs 11, 12, 13, and 23)

DD 12 – Austin (Includes Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis, and Williamson Counties): On August 11, DDEOC 12 activated to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions).

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM):

Communications Coordination Group (CCG):

Cellular providers continue to monitor tower sites and top off backup generators.

Backup cellular platforms are on standby to deploy.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service Public Works Response Team (TX/PWRT):

PWRT continues to support and coordinate operations from the SOC and are monitoring requests for service.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife):

On May 19, the North Area Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Chief met with County Extension Agents (CEA) and officials in Potter County to assess agricultural needs. They are finding injured/burned livestock, with minimal losses reported. AgriLife is working with the local water supplier to provide water trucks for supplemental water for livestock until electricity is restored.

On February 22, AgriLife conducted fencing damage assessments and monitoring needs with local landowners in affected counties. On February 23, the Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Animal Evacuation and Response Team demobilized and returned to headquarters.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS):

TAMFS has pre-positioned heavy equipment, engines, and aircraft across regions impacted by elevated fire weather conditions. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated. A targeted public awareness campaign is being conducted in the Panhandle region to include billboard messaging and outreach through local and regional news media. In total, TAMFS has 691 personnel committed to this event.

As of August 22, TAMFS, with support from the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS), has 26 TIFMAS Single Engine Resource and 14 TIFMAS Wildland Engine Strike Teams (ST), along with a variety of aircraft, engines, dozers, and motor graders committed to this event.

Texas Military Department (TMD):

On August 19, TMD activated one Rotary Wing Medium MRP and one Rotary Wing Mixed MRP with crews to include three UH-60s and one CH-47 to provide direct support with aerial fire suppression capabilities in response to ongoing fire weather.

As of August 22, TMD has activated 30 personnel and four aircraft of this response.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD):

Texas Game Wardens responded to multiple wildfires from July 14 thru 18 in TDEM Region 1 and supported local Law Enforcement with evacuations for the 8-Ball, Lavender, and Spade wildfire, along with traffic control. In total, TPWD has assisted 100 people in evacuation.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):

As of May 20, there were no state-maintained road closures due to wildfires. TxDOT is staffing the SOC and coordinating with TAMFS for ongoing DMS wildfire messaging. Up to date road conditions are available on drivetexas.org.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):

In response to wildfire activity, DSHS is continuously monitoring wildfires and requests for assistance in the state of Texas. The DSHS has activated to a Limited Activation for this incident. On August 4, DSHS is assisting TAMFS with an Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) in the Texas Panhandle with the significant uptick in elevated fire risks.

As of August 21, eight Wildland Fire Support (WLFS) Packages are assigned, staged, and are assisting TAMFS throughout the TDEM Regions impacted by wildfires.

Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR):

Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) is monitoring the situation using cybersecurity tooling and threat intelligence feeds. No cyber threats related to this weather event have been identified.

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA):

The State of Texas Agriculture Relief (STAR) Fund has been activated to support farmers and ranchers affected by wildfires. Ranchers needing hay or feed can use TDA's Hay Hotline at (877) 429-1998. Mental health support is available through the AgriStress Helpline by professionals familiar with rural challenges at (833) 897-2474.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
Mass Care	Liaison	4	0	Assigned	SOC (Remote)
ISTF HQ Staff	Liaison	4	0	Assigned	SOC (Remote)
VOAD	Liaison	2	0	Assigned	SOC (Remote)
ESF-18 Education	Liaison	1	0	Activated	SOC (Remote)
TAMFS	Command Staff	5	0	Available	Regions 1, 2 & 5
TAMFS	General Staff	20	0	Available	Regions 1, 2 & 5
TAMFS	Operations	38	0	Available	Regions 1, 2 & 5
TAMFS	Incident Support	20	0	Available	Regions 1, 2 & 5
TAMFS	Agency Reps	9	0	Available	Regions 1, 2 & 5
TAMFS	Aviation	27	27	Assigned	Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, & 8
TAMFS	Out of State (Field Ops)	58	13	Assigned	Regions 1, 2, 3, & 5
TAMFS	Field Operations	156	105	Assigned	Various
TIFMAS	ST Engine/Tender	358	71	Assigned	Regions 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, & 8
TIFAMS	Single Resource	0	26	Assigned	Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, & 7

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	SOC (Remote)
AgriLife	DAR Recovery Coordinator	1	1	Assigned	Victoria
AgriLife	Administration	2	2	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	DAR Specialists/ Area Chiefs	3	3	Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	SOC LNO	1	0	Assigned	Austin
DSHS	WLFS PKG #19	6	4	Assigned	Potter Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #20	6	4	Assigned	Kerr Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #21	6	4	Assigned	Wichita Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #22	6	4	Assigned	Jim Wells Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #23	6	4	Assigned	Rusk Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #24	6	4	Assigned	Parker Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #25	6	4	Assigned	Taylor Co
DSHS	WPU	2	2	Assigned	Taylor Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #26	6	4	Assigned	Parker Co
DSHS	REM	4	4	Assigned	Wichita Co
DSHS	Area MEDL	1	1	Available	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	Tech Specialist	1	0	Available	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	SCO	1	1	Assigned	Brazos Co
DSHS	MIST	1	1	Assigned	Brazos Co
HHSC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC (Remote)
TDA	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	SOC (Remote)
TEA	SOC LNO	1	0	Activated	SOC (Remote)
TMD	UH-60 ALAMO-01	5	1	Assigned	Lufkin
TMD	UH-60 SHINER-03	4	1	Assigned	Wichita Falls
TMD	UH-60 SHINER-04	9	1	Assigned	Austin
TMD	CH-47 TANDM-05	12	1	Assigned	Amarillo
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Available	SOC (Remote)
TPWD	Aviation	2	3	Available	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TPWD	Game Wardens	20	20	Available	TDEM Region 1
TPWD	DDEOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	DDEOC Amarillo and Lubbock
TPWD	UAS	2	4	Assigned	TDEM Region 1
TxDOT	EMC	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	Local District Support	20	12	Assigned	Amarillo District

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>

W. Nim Kidd, MLS, MPA

Chief – Texas Division of Emergency Management
Vice Chancellor for Disaster and Emergency Services
Texas A&M University System

<https://tdem.texas.gov/>

Twitter: [@TDEM](#)

(512) 424-2208 (24/7)