



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	26-0001 Wildfire Season 2026
Date	August 26, 2026
Time	10:00 AM
Operational Period	8:00 AM August 25, 2026, to 8:00 AM August 26, 2026
Report Number	169

TDEM Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
DDs Active	3, 4, 7, 12, 23

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: On August 25, Governor Greg 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 Ross Fire in Palo Pinto and Jack Counties. State and local response personnel are actively engaged in suppression, containment, and public safety operations.

The Texas State Emergency Operations Center remains activated at Level II (Escalated Response) status in support of 26-0001 Wildfire Season 2026 and 26-0021 24AUG Ross Fire FM-5675.

As of August 24, over the course of the last 30 days, most of Texas has received little to no rainfall and experienced well above average temperatures. This has led to extreme wildfire danger across the state, and wildfires are now burning with intensity that makes them extremely difficult to contain. Multiple wildfires remain active across the state and state emergency response resources remain engaged in support of local officials.

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 FEMA has approved a request from the State of Texas for a 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)

King County: Dark Canyon burned 25 acres and is 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): DDEOC 7 maintains Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) status in support of the fire weather threat.

Brown County: Neighbor has burned 220 acres and is contained.

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 with the assistance of TDEM Regions 3, 5, and the Incident Support Task Force (ISTF).

On August 25, a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) was approved for the Ross Fire in Palo Pinto County, spanning into Jack County. Jack County issued a mandatory evacuation order and has two shelters open. The shelters are located at the Community Center, 1114 Highway 59 in Jacksboro, and the Wildcater at 6062 Highway 16 S in Graham. Palo Pinto has issued a voluntary evacuation order and has no shelters.

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) status.

Montague County: North Bugscuffle burned 90.55 acres and is contained.

Wichita County:

- Falcon has burned 123 acres and is contained.

- Roadrunner burned 16 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). DDEOC 4 maintains Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) status.

Palo Pinto County: Ross has burned 50,000 acres and is [12 percent](#) contained.

Parker County: Cuttin burned 13 acres and [is contained](#).

Wise County: Pecan burned 57.26 acres and [is contained](#).

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

As of August 24, Region 3 has been experiencing a gradual increase in fire behavior, with moderate-extreme fire behavior presenting daily and sporadically across all four Districts. As of [August 25](#), 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)

Lamar County:

- Lamar 7670 burned two acres and [is contained](#).
- Lamar 7643 burned eight acres and [is contained](#).

Morris County: Morris 7648 burned 13 acres and [is contained](#).

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

Anderson County: Anderson 7547 burned [four](#) acres and [is contained](#).

Henderson County: Henderson 7642 burned three acres and [is contained](#).

Smith County: Smith 7550 burned 3.5 acres and [contained](#).

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

Angelina County: Angelina 7504 burned 0.31 acres and [is contained](#).

San Augustine County: San Augustine 7645 burned 10 acres and [is contained](#).

San Jacinto County: San Jacinto 7668 burned 1.71 acres and [is contained](#).

Shelby County:

- Shelby 7641 burned 0.25 acres and [is contained](#).
- Shelby 7587 burned [6](#) acres and [is contained](#).

Region 5 (Includes DDs 19-21)

TDEM Region 5 staff is actively communicating and coordinating with TAMFS and local jurisdictions to enhance response and recovery processes within the region.

As of August 25 at 8 pm, there are no state-supported wildfires in Region 5.

As of August 25, two Region 5 County Liaison Officers and one Voluntary Agency Liaison are assisting Region 2 on state-supported wildfires.

DD 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio Counties)

Bee County: Iron Corn burned 10.9 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): DDEOC 12 maintains Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) status.

DD 23 – Killeen (Includes Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba Counties). On August 24, DDEOC 23 has increased to level III-Increased Readiness Conditions.

Coryell County: Yellow Square has burned 253 acres and is 90 percent contained.

Hamilton County:

- Rio Escondido has burned 2,650 acres and is 75 percent contained.
- CR 518 has burned 44 acres and is contained.

Lampasas County: Adams has burned 100 acres and is 50 percent contained.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

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

The State Operations Center (SOC) remains activated to Level II (Escalated Response) status in support of this fire incident. The SOC is directing interagency coordination to maintain unified communication, deploy necessary resources, and support response operations in affected regions across Texas.

ESF-5 Incident Support Task Force (ISTF):

The TDEM ISTF is monitoring and rostering personnel in response to the Ross Fire in Jack and Palo Pinto Counties. ISTF is committed to assisting local jurisdictions with Emergency Operations Center (EOC) support, volunteer and donations management, and response and recovery operations.

As of August 25, ISTF has rostered 35 members and deployed 15 members to the TDEM Region 2 Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC). Members deployed include two Regional Coordinators to the Region 2 REOC, one member at the REOC with 14 members enroute to the REOC, and two ISTF members deployed to the SOC.

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):

AgriLife is monitoring fire weather conditions and SOC response activity in person for coverage. Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR) Specialists and County Extension Strike Team members are on standby to support any efforts associated with animal response or other fire weather response efforts as requested.

An AgriLife representative is activated to TDEM DDEOC 4 for situational awareness. AgriLife has 25 DAR Specialists and four Area Chiefs on stand-by.

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 741 personnel committed to this event.

As of August 25, 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 25, 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 State Medical Operations Center \(SMOC\) is at limited activation and supporting the response. The SMOC is monitoring impacts to healthcare facilities in the impacted area. EMTF resources are supporting wildland fire fighting operations with force protection, evacuation assistance, rescue operations in the local impacted area and resource coordination with the TAMFS.](#)

As of [August 26](#), eight Wildland Fire Support (WLFS) Packages are assigned, staged, and are assisting TAMFS throughout the TDEM Regions impacted by wildfires. [On August 25, for the Ross Fire, DSHS EMTF has deployed four Wildland Fire Support \(WLFS\) Packages, and activated two All Hazards Teams \(AH\), additional Wildland Paramedic Units \(WPU\), Ambulances, Rapid Extraction Module \(REM\) Teams, Medical Unit Leader \(MEDL\), and Medical Incident Support Teams \(MIST\).](#)

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)

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
ISTF HQ Staff	Liaison	4	0	Assigned	SOC (Remote)
VOAD	Liaison	2	0	Assigned	SOC (Remote)
TDEM	ISTF SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TDEM	ISTF Regional Coordinator	2	0	Assigned	Region 2 REOC
TDEM	ISTF Member	1	0	Assigned	Region 2 REOC
TDEM	ISTF Member	14	0	En Route	Region 2 REOC
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	19	0	Available	Regions 1, 2 & 5
TAMFS	Agency Reps	9	0	Available	Regions 1, 2 & 5
TAMFS	Aviation	27	28	Assigned	Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, & 8
TAMFS	Out of State (Field Ops)	81	17	Assigned	Regions 1, 2, 3, 5 & 8
TAMFS	Field Operations	187	84	Assigned	Various
TIFMAS	ST Engine/Tender	355	71	Assigned	Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, & 8
TIFAMS	Single Resource	0	26	Assigned	Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 & 8
AgriLife	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin
AgriLife	DDEOC 4 Rep	1	0	Assigned	DDEOC 4
AgriLife	Administration	2	2	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	Marketing and Comm	1	0	Activated	College Station
AgriLife	DAR Specialist/Area Chief	29	15	Activated	Statewide
DSHS	SOC LNO	1	0	Assigned	Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
DSHS	WLFS PKG #19	6	4	Assigned	Randall 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	Kerr Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #23	6	4	Assigned	Rusk Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #24	6	4	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #25	6	4	Assigned	Taylor Co
DSHS	WPU	2	2	Assigned	Taylor Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG #26	6	4	Assigned	Lubbock Co
DSHS	REM	4	2	Assigned	Lubbock Co
DSHS	Area MEDL	1	1	Available	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	Tech Specialist	1	0	Available	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WLFS AMBUS #1	7	2	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	SCO	1	1	Assigned	Brazos Co
DSHS	MIST	1	1	Assigned	Brazos Co
DSHS	AH Alpha	25	12	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	AH Bravo	25	12	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG 21	6	4	Assigned	Wichita Co
DSHS	WPU	2	2	Assigned	Wichita Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG 24	6	4	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WPU	2	2	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG 25	6	4	Assigned	Taylor Co
DSHS	WPU	2	2	Assigned	Taylor Co
DSHS	REM Merkel	4	2	Assigned	Taylor Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG 28	6	4	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WPU	2	2	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WLFS PKG 29	6	4	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WPU	2	2	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	MEDL 2	1	1	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
DSHS	Tech Specialist	1	0	Assigned	Palo Pinto Co
DSHS	WLFS AMBUS 2-04	7	2	Assigned	Palo Pinto 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
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>*

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