



## Smokehouse Creek, Windy Deuce and Grape Vine Creek Fires

March 2, 2024

### RED FLAG WARNING IN EFFECT

#### SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT BLUE TEAM

CHARLIE PATTERSON,  
INCIDENT COMMANDER

#### Smokehouse Creek Fire

Current Size: 1,075,545 Acres  
Current Containment: 15%  
Location: Origin 1 mile N. of Stinnett, TX  
Start Date: February 26, 2024  
Cause: Under Investigation  
Resources Assigned:  
Total personnel: 250  
Engines: 55  
Dozers: 6

#### Windy Deuce Fire

Current Size: 144,206 Acres  
Current Containment: 55%  
Location: Masterson to Fritch City, TX  
Start Date: February 26, 2024  
Cause: Under Investigation  
Resources Assigned:  
Total personnel: 206  
Engines: 39  
Dozers: 2

#### Grape Vine Creek Fire

Current Size: 34,882 acres  
Current Containment: 60%  
Location: SW and East of Lefors, TX  
Start Date: February 26, 2024  
Cause: Under Investigation  
Resources Assigned:  
Engines: 4  
Total Personnel: 22

#### COMMAND:

The Southern Area Blue, Complex Incident Management Team, will assist in Unified Command with Texas A&M Forest Service, National Park Service and impacted County Judges, in managing the Smokehouse Creek, Windy Deuce and Grape Vine Creek Fires beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Friday, March 1, 2024.

**Smokehouse Creek Fire:** Additional engine crews were assigned and will continue to strengthen control lines and mop-up along the perimeter of the fire. Six dozers will assist ground personnel and continue to construct fire lines where needed. The northern perimeter of the fire features many canyons where fireline is difficult to construct. Primary efforts today are holding the lines on the north side of the fire, as predicted strong southwest winds will test the established perimeter and has the potential to push the fire to the northeast.

**Windy Deuce Fire:** Additional engine crews were assigned and are continuing to construct and strengthen lines along the perimeter of the fire, mopping up hot spots near the lines. Dozers will continue to build and strengthen control lines. Fire personnel will be extremely vigilant along the northern perimeter of the fire due to the predicted southwest wind events.

**Grape Vine Creek Fire:** This fire now has four engines working to cool and control firelines, along with mopping up hot spots near the perimeter. Crews will be working near the east end of the fire to hold the current footprint of the fire.

#### WEATHER and FIRE BEHAVIOR:

A **RED FLAG** warning has been issued starting at noon today and will last through Sunday. Temperatures will reach into the mid-70s, with winds out of the southwest ranging from 15-25 mph and gusts up to 40 mph are predicted. Relative humidity may reach into single digits. Any moisture received two days ago is expected to be completely gone by mid-day. Grass fuels will be very receptive to any heat sources remaining in the fire. Fire has the potential to move at 1-3 mph and burn as quickly as 900-1500 acres in an hour.

#### MAJOR CLOSURES:

No road closures are in place at this time. Please contact the local sheriffs' websites for the most current roads update.

#### BURN BANS:

Burn Bans in effect for Hemphill, Roberts, Potter, Moore and Gray Counties. Please use the following link to see additional Texas counties with burn bans:  
<https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/TexasBurnBans/>

**Fire Information Line:** (806) 370-2179 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

**Email:** 2024.TexasPanhandle@firenet.gov

**Inciweb:** Smokehouse Creek: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/txtxs-smokehouse-creek-fire>, Windy Deuce:

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/txtxs-windy-deuce-fire>, Grape Vine Creek: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/txtxs-grape-vine-creek-fire>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/AllHazardsTFS/>