



# Smokehouse Creek, Windy Deuce and Grape Vine Creek Fires

March 5, 2024



Report  
Wildfire  
Damages

Report to:  
DAMAGE.TDEM.TEXAS.GOV



TDEM ISTAT



Reporte  
Daños Causados  
por Incendios  
Forestales

Reporte a:  
DAMAGE.TDEM.TEXAS.GOV



TDEM ISTAT

## SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT BLUE TEAM

CHARLIE PATTERSON,  
INCIDENT COMMANDER

### Smokehouse Creek Fire

Current Size: 1,059,570 Acres  
Current Containment: 37%  
Location: Origin 1 mile N. of Stinnett, TX  
Start Date: February 26, 2024  
Resources Assigned:  
Total personnel: 290  
Engines: 58  
Dozers: 10

### Windy Deuce Fire

Current Size: 144,206 Acres  
Current Containment: 55%  
Location: Masterson to Fritch City, TX  
Start Date: February 26, 2024  
Resources Assigned:  
Total personnel: 195  
Engines: 23  
Dozers: 5

### Grape Vine Creek Fire

Current Size: 34,882 acres  
Current Containment: 60%  
Location: SW and East of Lefors, TX  
Start Date: February 26, 2024  
Resources Assigned:  
Engines: 5  
Total Personnel: 35

### AVAILABLE AIR RESOURCES:

3 large air tankers stationed in Abilene  
2 scoopers, 2 lead aircraft  
6 single engine air tankers (3 in Dumas,  
3 in Childress)  
Two Chinook, One Blackhawk and  
One Type 3 helicopters in Abilene

**Smokehouse Creek Fire:** The acreage of the fire was reduced after additional data collection and more accurate mapping. Additional portions of the map indicate where the fire is now contained. Firefighters continue to monitor and respond to unburned pockets within the fire perimeter that have been flaring up, while also continuing to mop-up. Ten dozers, along with fifty-eight engines, will assist ground personnel and continue to construct fire lines where needed. The northern perimeter of the fire features many canyons and gulches that continue to be concerns as they have significant timbered areas that still hold heat. Aerial resources are still available to all of these fires.

**Windy Deuce Fire:** Emphasis today will be in McBride Canyon area on the western perimeter where the fire still contains significant heat. Engine crews will continue to construct and strengthen lines and mop-up hot spots. Dozers will continue to build and strengthen control lines.

**Grape Vine Creek Fire:** This fire has five engines working to cool and control flare-ups as they occur, along with mopping up hot spots near the perimeter and interior. Crews will continue working near the east end of the fire to hold the current footprint of the fire. Engines from this incident provided mutual aid to a new 30 acre fire that started yesterday near Groom, Tx.

### WEATHER and FIRE BEHAVIOR:

Yesterday's cold front moderated burning conditions, allowing crews to make good progress with mop-up. Today's weather will again be favorable to gain on containment. Temperatures will reach into the mid-60s, with winds out of the northeast ranging up to 15 mph. Relative humidity will range 21 to 26 percent. The overnight humidity recovery was 65-75 percent, giving firefighters a good headstart. Fire still has the *potential* to move at 1 mph and burn 300 acres in an hour with flame lengths in tall thick grass up to 8 to 12 feet during the peak period of the day. Overall, burn conditions are markedly improved and the ability to fight fire on the ground is greatly enhanced.

### MAJOR CLOSURES:

Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument, McBride, Mullinaw, Blue West, Plum Creek, and Fritch Fortress Areas are closed. No road closures in or around the fire areas 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 Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, Hemphill, Roberts, Potter, Moore and Gray Counties. Please use the following link to see additional Texas counties with burn bans: [tfsweb.tamu.edu/TexasBurnBans](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>