



**SOUTHERN AREA  
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT  
BLUE TEAM**

CHARLIE PATTERSON,  
INCIDENT COMMANDER

**Smokehouse Creek Fire**

Current Size: 1,076,638 Acres  
Current Containment: 15%  
Location: Origin 1 mile N. of Stinnett, TX  
Start Date: February 26, 2024  
Cause: Under Investigation  
Resources Assigned:  
Total personnel: 181  
Engines: 8  
Dozers: 36

**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: 209  
Engines: 28  
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: 5  
Total Personnel: 28

**AVAILABLE AIR RESOURCES:**

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

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

March 3, 2024

**RED FLAG WARNING IN EFFECT**

**Smokehouse Creek Fire:** Engine crews and additional dozers were assigned and will continue to strengthen control lines and mop-up along the perimeter of the fire. Yesterday's actions included responding to some slopovers, and aerial assets were used. Those aircraft included single engine air tankers, large airtankers, and helicopters. Six dozers will assist ground personnel and continue to construct fire lines where needed. The northern perimeter of the fire features many canyons and continues to be an area of concern, especially with the predicted wind direction. Primary efforts today are holding the lines on the north and east sides of the fire, as strong southwest winds will test the established perimeter.

**Windy Deuce Fire:** The lines were tested yesterday, particularly on the western perimeter. Scooper planes, getting water from Lake Meredith, were used on the western side of the fire. Additional engine crews were assigned and continued to construct and strengthen lines and mop up hot spots. Dozers will continue to build and strengthen control lines. Fire personnel will be extremely vigilant along the northern and western perimeters of the fire due to the predicted southwest wind event.

**Grape Vine Creek Fire:** This fire now has five engines working to cool and control flare-ups from yesterday, along with mopping up hot spots near the perimeter. Crews will continue 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 and will last through midnight Sunday. Temperatures will reach up to 80 degrees, with winds out of the southwest ranging from 20-30 mph. Gusts up to 45 mph are predicted. Relative humidity will reach into single digits. Any moisture received three days ago is completely gone. Overnight humidity recovery was poor, reaching 17-25 percent. Grass fuels are 2 percent drier than a day ago and will be very receptive to any heat sources. Fire has the potential to move at 2-4 mph and burn as quickly as 900-3000+ acres in an hour with flame lengths in tall thick grass up to 16-20 feet.

**MAJOR CLOSURES:**

Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument, McBride, Mullinaw, Blue West, Plum Creek and Harbor 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 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.TexasPanhhandle@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/>