



**DECLARATION OF DISASTER FOR TRAVIS COUNTY  
REGARDING THE NEW WORLD SCREWORM  
BY THE TRAVIS COUNTY JUDGE**

WHEREAS, Governor Abbott, on January 29, 2026, issued, and extended every thirty days thereafter, a statewide disaster declaration to prevent the spread of the New World screwworm (NWS), the spread of which threatens the Texas' livestock industry and economy and poses an imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage for all Texas counties;

WHEREAS, the NWS, also known as *Cochliomyia hominivorax*, is a parasitic fly whose larvae infest and feed on the living tissue of warm-blooded animals, including livestock and wildlife, which can cause serious and deadly damage to an animal;

WHEREAS, Governor Abbott directed the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to establish a joint Texas New World Screwworm Response Team to lead Texas's prevention and response efforts, and to serve as "the central hub for coordination, information-sharing, and stakeholder engagement among state, federal, and industry partners";

WHEREAS, Section 161.041 of the Texas Agriculture Code grants TAHC authority to protect all livestock from diseases, eradicate or control any disease or agent that could affect livestock, and Section 161.003 of the Texas Agriculture Code provides that county commissioners courts shall cooperate and assist TAHC when requested;

WHEREAS, Travis County is vulnerable to significant harm to livestock, agriculture, wildlife resources, wildlife, related business activity, and property interests if the threat of NWS materializes within the County;

WHEREAS, Section 418.004(1) of the Texas Government Code defines disaster to be the "occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made cause, including fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, oil spill or other water contamination, volcanic activity, epidemic, air contamination, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot, hostile military or paramilitary action, extreme heat, cybersecurity event, other public calamity requiring emergency action, or energy emergency;"

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Travis County finds that the threat of introduction or spread of the NWS constitutes an imminent threat of disaster within the meaning of the Texas Disaster Act of 1975;

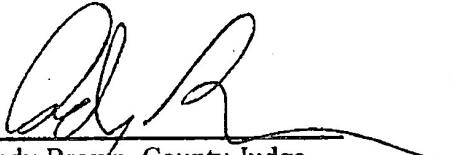
WHEREAS, Texas Government Code Chapter 418, Section 418.108 authorizes the County Judge of a county to declare a local state of disaster, and exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to the County Judge under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, I authorize the use of all available resources to assist in the County's response to this situation.

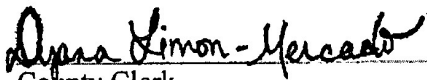
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS:**

1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Travis County, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. Pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Travis County, Texas.
3. Pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
4. Pursuant to section 418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Travis County emergency management plan.
5. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, the County may take actions necessary to cope with the threatened disaster.
6. Pursuant to Section 418.173, Texas Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates any directive legally authorized and issued by this Declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement for a term that does not exceed 180 days.
7. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026.


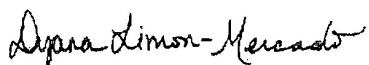
  
Andy Brown, County Judge  
County of Travis, Texas

Filed with the Clerk of Travis County:

  
Dyana Limon-Mercado  
County Clerk

Date: JUN 12 2026

**STAYS IN FILE**

  
**FILED AND RECORDED**  
**OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS**  
  
Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk  
Travis County, Texas  
**2026069767**  
Jun 12, 2026 12:13 PM  
Fee: \$0.00 HERNANDEZA