EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ORDER RELEASING ANIMAL MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS DUE TO NEW WORLD SCREWWORM IN COKE AND TOM GREEN COUNTIES

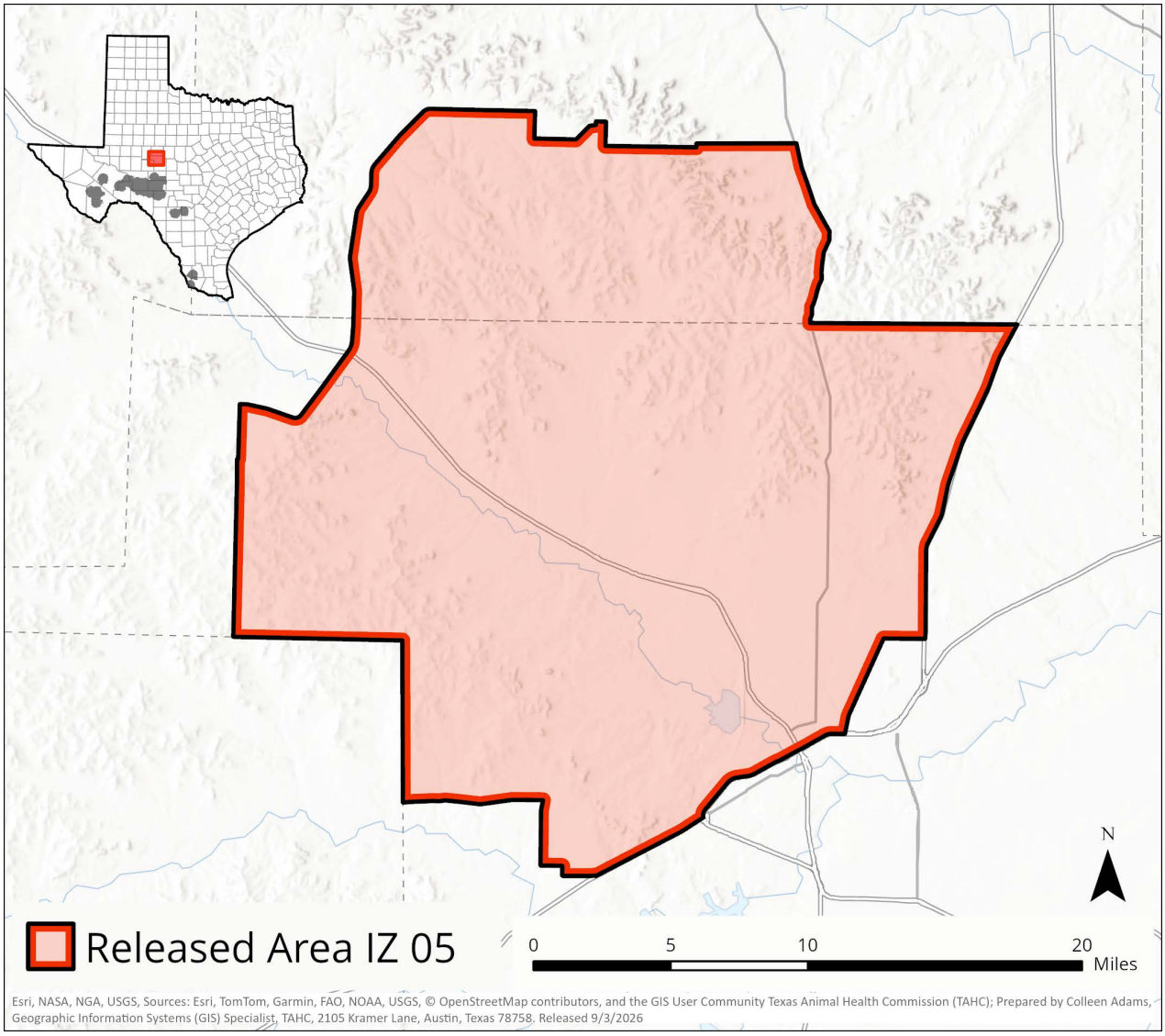
On June 11, 2026, New World Screwworm (NWS) was detected in a bovine in Tom Green County. In response, on June 12, 2026, the Executive Director issued the *Executive Director Order Declaring Animal Movement Restrictions Due to New World Screwworm in Coke and Tom Green Counties*, establishing Infested Zone 05 and imposing animal movement restrictions within the affected area.

Since issuance of the order, Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), have worked collaboratively with animal owners, veterinarians, livestock markets, industry organizations, local governments, and other state and federal partners to implement a comprehensive NWS eradication strategy within Infested Zone 05.

Sterile NWS flies were released by USDA in and around the affected area to suppress and eliminate any wild NWS population. These sterile fly releases, together with animal inspections, treatment protocols, movement controls, and continued surveillance efforts, have substantially reduced the risk of ongoing NWS infestations.

Based on the epidemiological assessment of Infested Zone 05, including fly trapping and monitoring data, assessment of sterile fly dispersal, visual inspection of susceptible animals for myiasis, and the absence of additional NWS detections throughout the surveillance period following the last confirmed detection, the Executive Director finds that sufficient evidence exists to demonstrate that surveillance conducted within the area identified for release satisfies the criteria for release from quarantine and movement restrictions. The Executive Director further finds that the surveillance conducted following implementation of control and eradication measures has satisfied the criteria necessary for release of the affected area and that the movement restrictions imposed by the June 12, 2026 order have achieved their intended purpose.

Therefore, the following areas of Coke and Tom Green Counties are hereby released from the quarantine and movement restrictions imposed by the June 12, 2026 order establishing Infested Zone 05:



Although response activities have provided reasonable assurance that the wild NWS population in the affected area has been eliminated, continued vigilance remains essential to prevent the reintroduction or reestablishment of NWS in previously impacted areas. Animal owners and caretakers should continue to monitor animals for wounds and clinical signs consistent with NWS infestation and promptly report any suspected cases to TAHC. Continued surveillance, awareness, and timely reporting are critical to preventing new infestations and protecting animal health in Texas.

This order is issued pursuant to Texas Agriculture Code, Chapters 161 – 168, and applicable regulations found in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code, Part 2, Chapters 31 – 60 and is effective immediately.

Signed September 03, 2026.

Lewis R. Dinges, D.V.M.
Executive Director
Texas Animal Health Commission