



For Immediate Release
March 1, 2024

Animal Movement Emergency Waivers Offered Amidst 2024 Texas Panhandle Wildfires

AUSTIN, TX – The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) coordinated with the state veterinarian offices in Oklahoma and New Mexico to facilitate a waiver of animal movement documentation for livestock producers, amidst the 2024 Texas Panhandle wildfire situation.

Animal owners or producers conducting emergency evacuation of livestock animals to neighboring states should call the TAHC program records department, 512-719-0777, to register animal movement across state lines. Throughout this emergency situation, resources to gain proper documentation may not be available, and the safety of those involved is the top priority. Please call and provide as much of the following information in order to help ensure a swift and secure process crossing state borders.

- Producer
 - Name
 - Address
 - Phone number
- Livestock
 - Species
 - Number of head
- Movement information
 - Date of movement
 - Origin address
 - Destination information
 - Destination owner name and contact number, if possible
 - Destination address

Easing the burden of those affected by the wildfires are at the forefront of these efforts. The generous support and understanding from surrounding state animal health officials is greatly appreciated. Please call the TAHC, 512-719-0700, with any questions regarding this process, and visit the [TAHC website](http://www.tahc.texas.gov) for additional resources and information related to animal response during this event.

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The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) was established in 1893 as the Livestock Sanitary Commission and charged with protecting the state's domestic animals "from all contagious or infectious diseases of a malignant character." TAHC remains true to this charge while evolving with the times to protect the health and marketability of all Texas livestock and poultry. Learn more about the TAHC by visiting www.tahc.texas.gov.