

**LOCAL DECLARATION OF DISASTER
RELATED TO THE PRESENCE OF THE NEW WORLD SCREWWORM**

WHEREAS, the New World Screwworm (NWS), also known as Cochliomyia hominivorax, is a parasitic fly primarily found in South America, Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic; and

WHEREAS, NWS 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; and

WHEREAS, NWS has spread from Panama into Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Belize, Mexico, and now Texas; and

WHEREAS, the presence or suspected presence of New World Screwworm may require rapid coordination among public officials, livestock owners, veterinarians, and State and Federal animal health authorities to investigate infestations, control animal movements, conduct surveillance, and implement response measures necessary to limit further spread; and

WHEREAS, I, Brett Bray, County Judge of Blanco County, Texas, do hereby certify that the spread of NWS into Blanco County threatens Blanco County's livestock industry, wildlife resources, agricultural economy, and private property interests and poses an imminent threat or occurrence of widespread and severe property damage.

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the authority vested in me by Section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code, I do hereby declare a local state of disaster in Blanco County, Texas, based on the existence of such ongoing and imminent threat posed by the NWS to Blanco County's livestock industry, wildlife resources, agricultural economy, and private property interests.

BE IT PROCLAIMED:

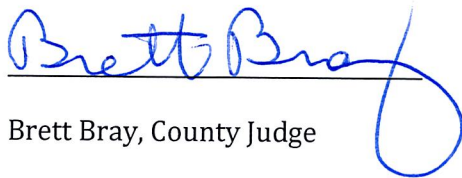
1. **I.** That the local state of disaster hereby declared for Blanco County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code, is effective at 12:00 PM CST on June 16, 2026, and expires at 12:00 PM CST on June 23, 2026, unless renewed, continued or rescinded by the Commissioners Court of Blanco County, Texas, or by further Order of the County Judge.
2. **II.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this Declaration of a local disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
3. **III.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Blanco County Emergency Management Plan.
4. **IV.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(g) of the Texas Government Code, I hereby find that it may be necessary to control ingress to and egress from a disaster area and to control the

movement of warm-blooded animals into and out of that area, specifically any areas in Blanco County affected directly or indirectly by the presence of NWS.

5. **V.** The Blanco County Emergency Management Coordinator and all other appropriate Blanco County officials, departments, employees, agents, and responders are directed and authorized to coordinate and cooperate with local, State, and Federal agencies in carrying out surveillance, investigation, inspection, reporting, public information, preparedness, mitigation, containment, treatment, transportation, disposal, and other measures reasonably necessary to prevent, control, and respond to the presence or suspected presence of New World Screwworm within Blanco County and to protect livestock, wildlife, domestic animals, agricultural interests, and property.

Violation of this Order is punishable as a Class C misdemeanor by a fine not to exceed \$500.00 or as authorized by Government Code §418.173 and adopted in the county's emergency plan by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, whichever is greater.

DECLARED and ORDERED this 16th day of June, 2026, at 9:55 A.M. CST.



Brett Bray, County Judge

Blanco County, Texas