

## Deployment Statistics

Lasted a total of 8 days

122 Personnel activated supporting the following resources:

- TX-TF1 - Type 1 Urban Search & Rescue Team
- TX-TF2 - Type 2 Urban Search & Rescue Team
- 3 Helicopter Search & Rescue Technicians

Type – **FIRE**



On the afternoon of February 26, 2024, a fire- now known as the Smokehouse Creek Fire- started just north of Sinnett, Texas. It is believed to have been caused by a broken utility pole with downed power lines. Due to dry conditions, the fire spread rapidly east toward Roberts and Hemphill Counties. A second fire- the Windy Deuce fire- started later that evening near Moore County. These would be followed by other smaller fires.

On February 28, 2024, the Texas Division of Emergency Management requested Urban Search and Rescue Teams in response to the rapidly spreading fires. Texas A&M Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) was activated as a Type 1 Team, and Texas Task Force 2 (TX-TF2) was activated as a Type 2 Team. Both teams headed to the panhandle where they established their Base of Operations in Canadian, Texas and Borger, Texas (respectively). The Smokehouse Creek Fire became the largest wildfire in Texas history on February 29, 2024, when it surpassed 907,245 acres- the record previously held by the East Amarillo Complex fire. By the time the Smokehouse Creek Fire was contained on March 16, 2024 it had expanded across 1,058,482 acres.

Over the following days the teams performed search operations and damage assessments with TX-TF1 in Hemphill County, and TX-TF2 in Hutchinson, Carson, Potter, and Moore Counties. On March 6th, 2024, after no further requests for service all resources were demobilized and returned to their home stations.

