



DATE: June 30, 2022

TO: The Honorable G. Scott Kniffen
Callahan County
100 W. 4th St. Ste. 200
Baird, Texas 79504

SUBJECT: Letter of Determination - Request for Extension under Texas Government Code, Chapter 418.108 (i) Regarding Fireworks

Dear Judge Kniffen:

The Texas Division of Emergency Management is in receipt of your request for an extension under Chapter 418.108 (i) of the Texas Government Code.

After a review of the Texas A&M Forest Service Wildfire Danger Assessment, Callahan County meets the necessary thresholds to warrant a fireworks restriction that exceeds the restriction authorized by Local Government Code Sec. 352.051.

Your request for an extension has been approved by the Office of the Governor and is hereby granted.

Please contact me at 512-424-2443 or Marty Penney, Division Chief at 512-424-2208 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Nim Kidd".

W. Nim Kidd, MPA, CEM

Chief – Texas Division of Emergency Management
Vice Chancellor for Disaster and Emergency Services
The Texas A&M University System



G. SCOTT KNIFFEN
CALLAHAN COUNTY JUDGE
100 W 4th ST. STE. 200
BAIRD, TEXAS 79504
325.854.5805
FAX 325.854.5806

POST
003293

Taylor Hargrove
Court Administrator

June 28, 2022

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
c/o Chief - TDEM
P.O. Box 4087
Austin, Texas 78773-0001

Dear Governor Abbott:

As a result of the hot, dry conditions in Callahan County and the potential for large and dangerous wildfires, I have issued a disaster declaration for Callahan County in which I have prohibited the sale and use of all fireworks in Callahan County. The statutes state that such a restriction is effective only for 60 hours unless I request and you authorize an extension of the broader fireworks restriction.

Accordingly, I hereby request that you authorize an extension of this fireworks ban through July 5, 2022 for Callahan County. Attached you will find a copy of our disaster declaration. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

G. Scott Kniffen
Callahan County Judge

POST

003293

DECLARATION OF DISASTER AND ORDER PROHIBITING THE **JUN 28 2022**

FILED FOR RECORD
AT 4:10 O'CLOCK P M

SALE OR USE OF FIREWORKS IN
CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS

Nicole Crocker
County Clerk, Callahan County, TX

WHEREAS, Callahan County has not had rainfall for an extended period, with extreme dry conditions; and

WHEREAS, the hot and dry conditions pose the threat of large, dangerous, and fast-moving wildfires; and

WHEREAS, such fires have the potential of endangering lives and damaging property on a large scale; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Government Code Chapter 418 gives the County Judge the authority to declare a local disaster within the county "if the threat of disaster is imminent"; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the potential damage and the rapidity with which such a fire could escalate to major proportions constitutes an imminent threat of disaster; and

WHEREAS, declaration of such disaster authorizes the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of fires; and

WHEREAS, such controls, once implemented, have the potential of protecting lives and property by mitigating the threat of dangerous fires; and

WHEREAS, a declaration issued under Section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code may include a prohibition or restriction on the sale or use of all fireworks within the county; and

WHEREAS, a local disaster declaration expires seven days after its issuance, unless the commissioners court consents to its renewal or continuance; and

WHEREAS, to the extent that a declaration includes a provision related to fireworks, any portion of the provision that exceeds the restrictions authorized by Texas Local Government Code Section 352.051 is effective only for 60 hours, unless the County Judge requests and the Governor authorizes an extension of the broader fireworks restriction.

BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED, and I, G. Scott Kniffen, County Judge of Callahan County, do hereby declare a local state of disaster based on the threat of large wildfires in Callahan County, Texas.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED, that this state of disaster will continue until rescinded in accordance with the above cited statute and, as the declaration pertains to fireworks, no more than 60 hours unless an extension of the restriction on fireworks has been received from the Governor of the State of Texas. A request for such extension has been sent to the Office of the Governor and the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED, that the sale and use of all fireworks is prohibited anywhere in Callahan County, Texas for the duration of this Declaration.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED, that the purpose of this order is the mitigation of the hazard posed by wildfires by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning and the sale and use of all fireworks, which purpose is to be taken into account in any enforcement action based upon this order.

This declaration shall be promptly publicized and filed with the County Clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my signature this 28th day of June, 2022 at 4:00 P.M.



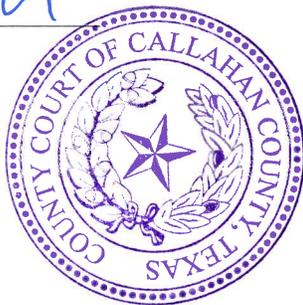
G. Scott Kniffen
Callahan County Judge

Filed with the Clerk of Callahan County on June 28, 2022

Attest:



Nicole Crocker
Callahan County Clerk





In accordance with request from the Texas Division of Emergency Management, and the Office of General Counsel, Office of the Governor, the Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) is asked to verify the following information in implementing procedures for consideration of a county's request for extension for local declaration of disaster.

1. County has an Average Keetch-Byram Drought Index of 575 or greater.
2. Fire occurrence for previous 14 days. Local Fire Department occurrences are dependent on fire departments reporting to Texas FireConnect (fireconnect.tfs.tamu.edu).
3. Current drought intensity. Drought implies an increased availability of dead and live fuels that will contribute to combustion. Increased fuel loading will increase fire intensity, increase the rate of spread and generally increase a wildfire's resistance to control.
4. Burn bans are enacted at the local level, and the burn ban map is updated daily as the TAMFS is notified by local jurisdictions.
5. If the above criteria is not met and special circumstances are cited, provide supporting documentation if possible, to assist with validation/support of special circumstances cited.

On _____, a request was received from the State Operations Center for verification of above criteria for _____ County. The Texas A&M Forest Service verifies criteria for the county as follows:

1. Meets KBDI average criteria: Yes _____ No _____ KBDI _____
2. Reported 14 day fire occurrence:
TAMFS _____ fires for _____ acres
Local Fire Departments _____ fires for _____ acres
3. U.S. Drought Monitor intensities present in county:
DO (Abnormally Dry) _____ D1 (Moderate Drought) _____ D2 (Severe Drought) _____
D3 (Extreme Drought) _____ D4 (Exceptional Drought) _____ None _____
4. Is county currently in a Burn Ban, that has been reported to TAMFS: Yes _____ No _____
5. Special considerations for increased fire potential: Yes _____ No _____
 - a. Special Circumstance:

Submitted to the SOC on: _____

Created by: Emergency Operations Center

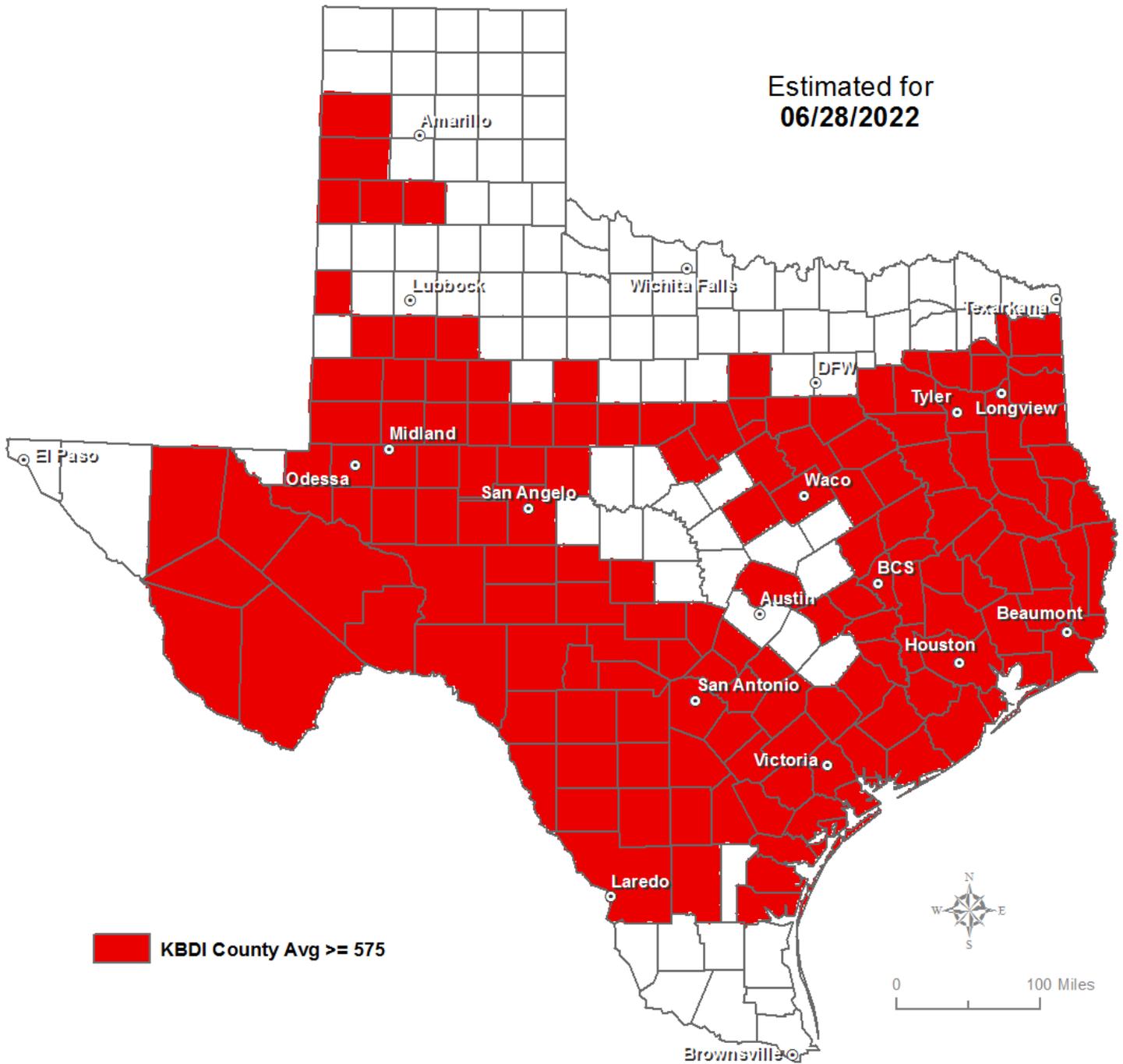
Texas A&M Forest Service
200 Technology Way, 1162
College Station, TX 77845
979.458.7306

Attachments: 1. KBDI
 2. U.S. Drought Monitor Intensity Map
 3. Reported Burn Ban Map
 4. Fire Report

Keetch-Byram Drought Index

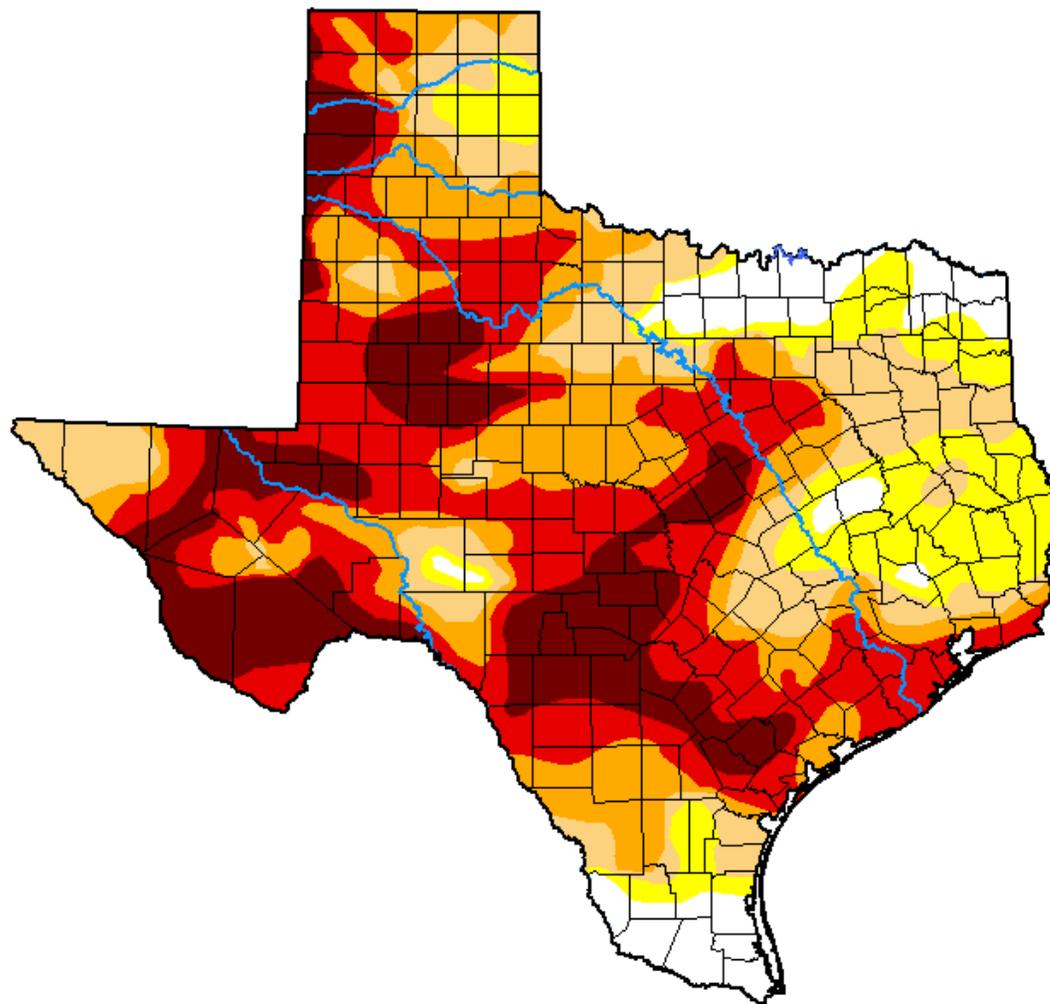
(County Average Value)

Estimated for
06/28/2022



U.S. Drought Monitor
Texas

June 21, 2022
(Released Thursday, Jun. 23, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

-  None
-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Moderate Drought
-  D2 Severe Drought
-  D3 Extreme Drought
-  D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Adam Hartman
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

OUTDOOR BURN BANS

June 28, 2022

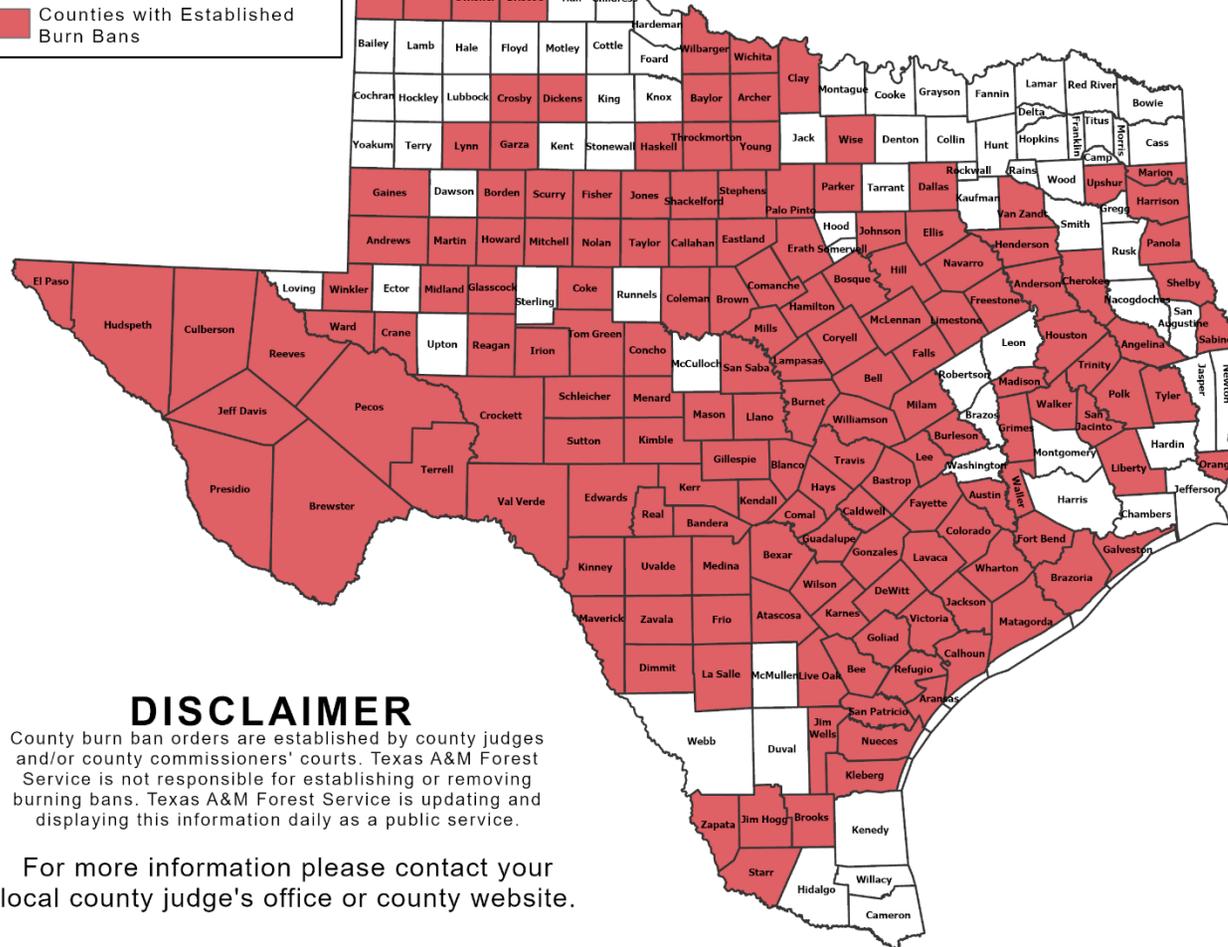


Counties without Established Burn Bans
 Counties with Established Burn Bans

Email updates to:
burnban@tfs.tamu.edu

Counties with Burn Bans: 170

- | | | |
|------------|------------|--------------|
| Anderson | Freestone | Nolan |
| Andrews | Frio | Nueces |
| Angelina | Gaines | Oldham |
| Aransas | Galveston | Orange |
| Archer | Garza | Palo Pinto |
| Armstrong | Gillespie | Panola |
| Atascosa | Glasscock | Parker |
| Austin | Goliad | Parmer |
| Bandera | Gonzales | Pecos |
| Bastrop | Grimes | Polk |
| Baylor | Guadalupe | Potter |
| Bee | Hamilton | Presidio |
| Bell | Harrison | Randall |
| Bexar | Haskell | Reagan |
| Blanco | Hays | Real |
| Borden | Henderson | Reeves |
| Bosque | Hill | Refugio |
| Brazoria | Houston | Sabine |
| Brewster | Howard | San Jacinto |
| Briscoe | Hudspeth | San Patricio |
| Brooks | Irion | San Saba |
| Brown | Jackson | Schleicher |
| Burleson | Jeff Davis | Scurry |
| Burnet | Jim Hogg | Shackelford |
| Caldwell | Jim Wells | Shelby |
| Calhoun | Johnson | Sherman |
| Callahan | Jones | Starr |
| Carson | Karnes | Stephens |
| Castro | Kendall | Sutton |
| Cherokee | Kerr | Swisher |
| Clay | Kimble | Taylor |
| Coke | Kinney | Terrell |
| Coleman | Kleberg | Throckmorton |
| Colorado | Lampasas | Tom Green |
| Comal | La Salle | Travis |
| Comanche | Lavaca | Trinity |
| Concho | Lee | Tyler |
| Coryell | Liberty | Upshur |
| Crane | Limestone | Uvalde |
| Crockett | Live Oak | Val Verde |
| Crosby | Llano | Van Zandt |
| Culberson | Lynn | Victoria |
| Dallas | McLennan | Walker |
| Deaf Smith | Madison | Waller |
| DeWitt | Marion | Ward |
| Dickens | Martin | Wharton |
| Dimmit | Mason | Wheeler |
| Donley | Matagorda | Wichita |
| Eastland | Maverick | Wilbarger |
| Edwards | Medina | Williamson |
| Ellis | Menard | Wilson |
| El Paso | Midland | Winkler |
| Erath | Milam | Young |
| Falls | Mills | Zapata |
| Fayette | Mitchell | Zavala |
| Fisher | Moore | |
| | Navarro | |



DISCLAIMER

County burn ban orders are established by county judges and/or county commissioners' courts. Texas A&M Forest Service is not responsible for establishing or removing burning bans. Texas A&M Forest Service is updating and displaying this information daily as a public service.

For more information please contact your local county judge's office or county website.

RED FLAG WARNINGS: www.weather.gov
 Additional map formats available at <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/Burnbans/>

Texas A&M Forest Service
State Assistance Fire Activity – Prior 14 days
06/28/2022

Callahan County:

Start Date	County	Fire Name	Acres
6/22/2022	Callahan	Rockin	6

Fire Department
Fire Activity – Prior 14 days
06/28/2022

Callahan County:

There have been no fires reported by fire departments in Callahan County in the past 14 days.