



## 2026 Texas Oral Rabies Vaccine Distribution Update

**1/14/2026:** Personnel from Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), USDA National Rabies Management Program (NRMP), USDA and Texas Wildlife Services (WS), Texas State Guard, and Dynamic Aviation arrived in Alpine and began setting up operations at Alpine-Casparis Municipal Airport.

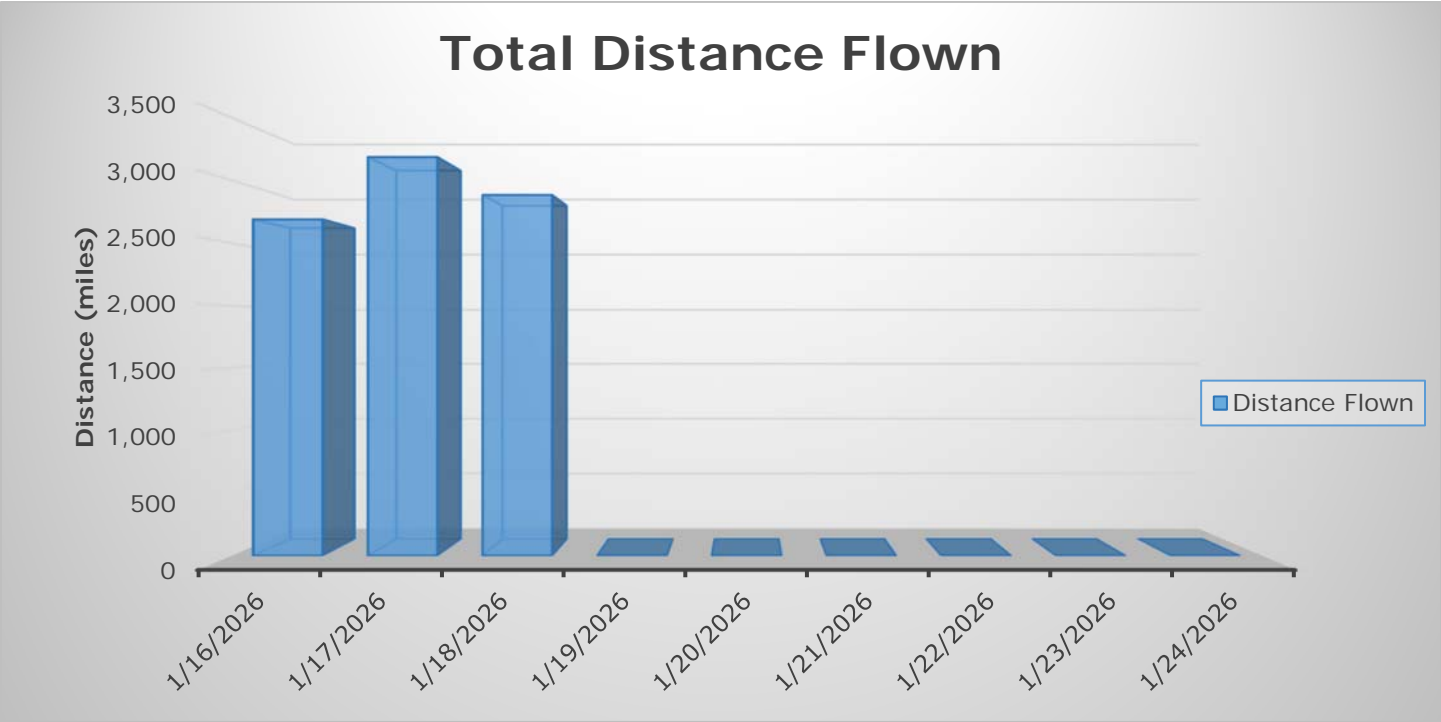
**1/15/2026:** Staff from DSHS and WS drove to El Paso to conduct hand baiting training with local personnel and to deliver the baits for that portion of the project. The remainder of the project personnel attended flight and ground operations training at the airport. Flight operations will begin tomorrow at 8:00 am.

**1/16/2026:** It was a sunny morning, and flights departed on time at 8:00 am, returning between 10:15 and 10:50. Winds shifted and temperatures dropped slightly late in the morning with strong sustained winds and gusts from the north creating dusty conditions that continued into the afternoon. These conditions did not impact flight operations, however. Second round flights departed between 11:10 and 11:30, returning at 1:45. Third round flights departed between 2:20 and 2:30 and returned between 5:00 and 5:30. The day's flights distributed 83,700 baits over 2,688 miles, completing bait distribution in grid ALP02. Flight operations will resume at 8:00 am tomorrow.

**1/17/2026:** The morning started cold and clear with no wind. The first round of flights departed in quick succession between 7:50 and 8:00, returning 10:55 and 11:25. Second round flights departed between 11:25 and 11:50, returning between 2:30 and 2:55. Third round flights departed between 3:10 and 3:30, returning between 5:40 and 6:15. The day's flights distributed 99,100 baits over 3,183 miles, completing bait distribution in grid ALP02. Flight operations will resume at 8:00 am tomorrow.

**1/18/2026:** The weather today was clear, sunny, and calm. The first round of flights departed in quick succession at 8:00, with two flights returning at 11:00 and 11:20. The third flight landed in El Paso to refuel so that it could continue baiting operations in the far western reaches of the zone. It departed El Paso for the second leg of its flight at 12:30 and returned to Alpine at 3:25. A second round of two flights departed Alpine at 11:40 and 11:50, returning at 2:25 and 2:50. Third round flights involving all three aircraft departed Alpine between 2:55 and 3:50, and returned between 5:30 and 6:20. The day's flights distributed 91,500 baits over 2,881 miles, completing bait distribution in all Alpine grids except for ALP01. A single flight is scheduled for tomorrow at 8:00 am to complete ALP01, after which the Alpine portion of the project will be complete, one day ahead of schedule. The project crew will travel to Del Rio on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> to set up for the Del Rio portion of the project.

Distance Flown



Baits Distributed

