Texas wildfires: At least 1 dead as huge blaze grows to 850,000 acres

It wasn't immediately clear where the death occurred. The fires have also led to the shutdown and evacuation of the nuclear weapons facility at Pantex out of “an abundance of caution.”

Feb. 29, 2024, 1:19 AM EST

What to know about Texas wildfires

- At least one person has died in the wildfires raging across the Texas Panhandle, which have threatened towns, forced evacuations and cut power to thousands of homes and businesses.
- A fire at Smokehouse Creek, north of Amarillo, has burned through 850,000 acres and is only 3% contained. It has quickly become the second-largest wildfire in Texas history.
- Gov. Greg Abbott has issued a disaster declaration for 60 counties and urged Texans "to limit activities that could create sparks and take precautions to keep their loved ones safe."
- Strong winds, unseasonably high temperatures and dry grass are fueling the fires, although rain could arrive tomorrow.

Coverage on this live blog has ended. ***Follow here for the latest news on the Texas wildfires.***