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Fritch VFD adds a military vehicle to fleet

FRITCH, Texas — Fritch Volunteer Fire Department recently added a converted Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck to their fleet.

“Fritch is on the banks of the Canadian River with broken terrain that can be difficult to maneuver,” Fire Chief Ed Adamson said. “This truck has the power and traction to get up and down those ravines.”

The truck was painted a nonmilitary color, equipped with a tank, hose and reels making it ready to fight fires as well as transport water.

“In 2014 we had the Double Diamond wildland fire that burned 1,500 acres and consumed 260 structures,” said Adamson. “If we ever have a similar situation again we will be prepared. With the help of this vehicle we can supply water to other trucks or use it to fight the fire.”

The DoD Firefighter Property Program provides excess military equipment to fire departments and emergency service providers. Launched in Texas in 2005, this program has released over 300 retired military trucks to VFDs across the state to help them better protect lives and property. The USDA Forest Service oversees the program and Texas A&M Forest Service directs it.

“The TFS grant programs make it possible for the smaller VFDs to have the tools and training that they need to respond to emergencies in their community and surrounding area,” Adamson said. “It is the best thing that the state can do to help the VFDs.

To learn more about this program visit texasfd.com